

THE
L I F E
O F
Osfman the Great,
EMPEROR of the TURKS;
Who first attempted the
CONQUEST of POLAND,
A N D
The uniting that Kingdom to the Dominions
of the *Ottoman Porte.*

Compiled from the MEMOIRS of three successive
Ambassadors from the King of FRANCE to the
Grand-Signior, by

M A D A M D E G O M E Z,
Author of *La Belle Assemblée.*

The Whole comprising the greatest Variety of ex-
traordinary Incidents, and surprizing Revolutions,
that ever happen'd in so short a Space of Time,
even in that Fluctuating Empire.

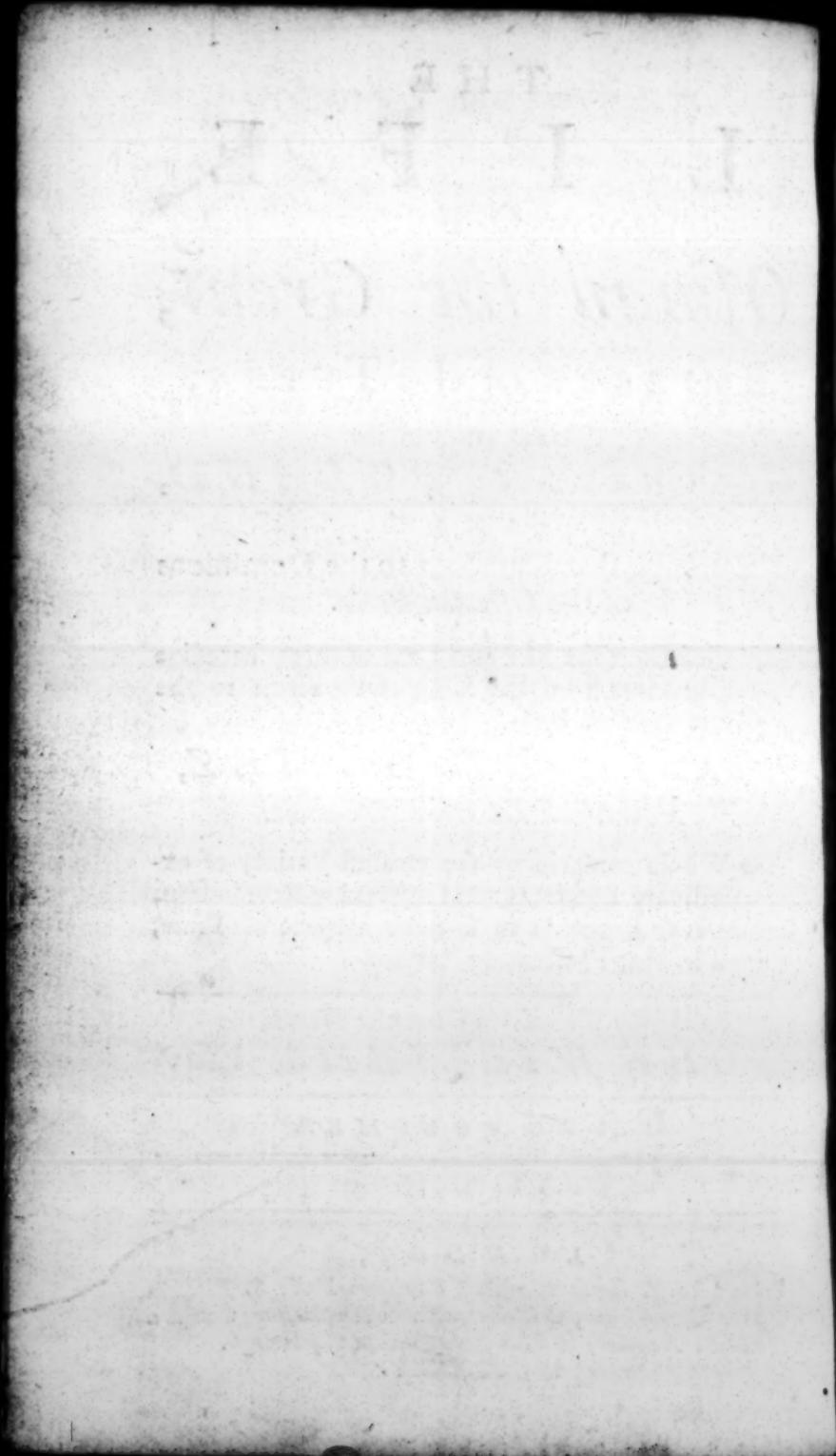
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THE
HISTORY
O F
O S M A N I.

The TENTH

Emperor of the *Turks*;

Who first attempted the Conquest of
POLAND, and the uniting that King-
dom to the Dominions of the Ottoman
Porte.

PART III.

WHILST the Daemon of *Discord* was beginning to sow the Seeds of the most cruel Misfortunes, the amorous *Osman*, overjoy'd at *Aphen-dina's* Compliance, hastened to see her the Moment she arrived. He found her more beautiful than ever, and so sensibly affected with the Honours he had caused to be paid

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her, that, notwithstanding his Efforts, he could not prevent her throwing herself at his Feet, in order to return him Thanks.

He rais'd her up immediately, and looking at her with Eyes wherein his Love was expressed to the Life ; “ Adorable *Aphendina*, said he, for “ what do you vouchsafe to thank me ? I have “ done nothing yet, sufficient to convince you of “ my Love, and my Fidelity. Yes, continued “ he, I dare say of my Fidelity, since my Heart “ never had any Share in what you have look'd “ upon as an Inconstancy. My dear *Aphendina*, “ have you forgiven it me ? Do you again behold “ me with Joy ? And may I flatter myself with the “ Thoughts of having been always beloved by the “ only one I ever adored ? ”

“ Yes, my Lord, (answer'd she, hurried away “ by her Passion) never has your *Aphendina* cea- “ sed to be yours ; I have mourn'd my Rival's “ Happiness, and I have shed Tears ; but I have “ been no less constant in my Affection, which will “ follow me to my Grave : And if this Confession “ can be any Satisfaction to my Emperor, he may “ be assur'd, that I feel as much Pleasure in mak- “ ing it, as he can in hearing it.”

One must love with as much Ardour as *Osmar*, to be well able to conceive all that passed in his Heart, at that Instant. He was alone with *Aphen- dina*, and there was nothing to restrain him from giving full Scope to his Transports ; he threw himself at her Feet, and taking her by the Hand, imprinted thereon a thousand ardent Kisses ; not being able to express his Joy, otherwise than by Actions, Words being too weak to explain all he

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he had to say : But as it was the first and only Favour she had ever allowed him, he accompanied his Transports with such Marks of Respect and Submission, as might remove her Fears of seeing him attempt, to take Advantage of this happy Moment.

The *Mufly's Daughter*, confounded to see her Emperor on his Knees, obliged him to rise ; and made all the most tender and passionate Returns to his Love, that Modesty and Virtue would permit : And the amorous *Osman*, returned to his Pavillion, as well satisfied with the Success of his Visit, as if his utmost Wishes had been crowned, and he had had no more to hope for from her. His Passion being so refined, that he found as much Pleasure in *Aphendina's* Virtue, as others find in the Enjoyment of their Mistresses ; delicate, tender, and respectful in his Love, it never came into his Head, either to say or do any thing, that might make the Daughter of *Ajbad* blush, at having yielded him her Heart : And notwithstanding such Sentiments may seem extraordinary in a *Turkish* Emperor, there being a thousand Examples of the contrary in *Osman's* Predecessors and Successors, and the Sequel of this History, will evidently shew that it is true.

This great Prince, ordered fresh Rejoicings in his Camp, on the Arrival of *Aphendina*, and caused the most remarkable Honours to be paid her on all Occasions which publick Festivals afforded him ; and when he had fixed a Day for his triumphant Entry, not being willing she should seem to be of the *Sultana* Queen's Retinue, he caused her to be conducted back to *Constantinople*, and even to her Father's own Palace, with the

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same Ceremony as had been observed on her coming to the Camp. This done, he dismissed the rest of the *Asian* Troops, with those of *Europe* and *Africa*; reserving only the *Janizaries*, and *Spahis*, with all his Household in general, to grace his Triumph, which was as follows.

Twenty thousand *Spahis*, with twelve thousand *Janizaries* began the March; after these two Corps, richly dressed, came all the Officers and Pages of the *Seraglio*; then followed all the *Viziers* and *Bossa's*, belonging to the *Divan*, on Horseback, magnificently dressed, and surrounded by their Guards and Slaves; next to them came the Chariot of the *Sultana* Queen, followed by those of her Retinue; then in a large void Space, one might see the *Grand Signior* alone, mounted upon a stately Horse, his Turban and Vest all covered with Jewels, which cast such a Lustre that it dazzled the Eye; and could be exceeded by nothing but the Charms of his Countenance, the Beauty of his Shape, the Majesty of his Air, and the Graces that shone all over his Person, which reflected yet a greater Lustre. Three Pages of his Chamber carried his Arms, and he was surrounded by his usual Guard.

Next to him came the *Mufti*, and the *Grand Vizier*; after whom appeared several Sets of Milk-white Horses, drawing the Cannon the *Poles* had presented to the *Sultan*, and a Page, who carried openly the rich *Javelin*; which was likewise part of their Present: Then came the *Polish Ambassador*, who was the best made Man of his Time, mounted upon a beautiful Horse, and magnificently habited, as well as the Nobility of his Nation, who made up his Train; then followed the

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the *Cadiliskiers*, *Cadis*, *Imans*, and other Doctors of the Law, according to their Rank, and the Rear was brought up by the *Capigis*, and another Body of the *Janizaries* and *Spahis*, who closed this stately Cavalcade.

In this Order, the *Turkifb Monarch* entered *Constantinople*, by the Gate of *Adrianople*; the Cannon firing all the while from the *Seraglio*, the Ramparts, the Arsenal, the Suburbs of *Pera*, all the Vessels of *Gallipoly*, *Scutari*, and the other Places along the *Bosphorus*, which continued answering each other, till very late in the Night. The Streets were all strew'd with Flowers; the Houses likewise were adorned with Flowers, interwoven with Laurel Branches: And every Shop was set off with the richest Carpets, and the best Furniture the Owners could provide.

The great Officers of the *Porte*, to distinguish themselves yet the more, had triumphal Arches erected before their respective Palaces, where the Laurel, and the Myrtle, artfully interlaced, formed several Compartments, in each of which the Name of *Osman* was every where to be discovered. Amongst all these Palaces, that of the *Miftiy*, attracted the Eye, by the magnificent Structure of the triumphal Arches, which the tender *Aphendina* had caused to be there erected; in whose several Compartments of Flowers, Laurels, and Myrtles, artfully interwoven, one might see the Attributes of *Mars*, *Peace*, *Love*, *Glory*, and *Minerva*.

Never before did the People of this Nation, behold so glorious an Entry, nor so magnificent

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a Sight. Their Joy was so perfect, that they testified it by a thousand Acclamations, making the Heavens resound with the *Sultan's* Name, to which they joined all the pompous Epithets that their Zeal and Admiration could suggest. Great Rejoicings were ordered, that continued twenty Days without Intermission, during which, the City still remained in the same State of Magnificence, the better to celebrate *Osman's* happy Return, to this Capital of his Empire.

All these Rejoicings being ended, this Monarch paid to his Son's Memory, the pious Duties required by the Law on such Occasions. To this End, he had ordered a stately Tomb to be set up near his Father *Achmet's*, wherein he put that young Prince's Body ; and he added to the Magnificence of the Funeral Pomp, the Figure of a Bow and Quiver, embellished with precious Stones, which was placed over the Monument. Having thus discharged the Duty of Fatherly Affection, he bent all his Thoughts upon the Possession of the beauteous *Aphendina* ; has Passion was come to such a Pitch, that he could no longer bear the Sight of the *Sultana* Queen, or the other Ladies of the Seraglio ; their Advances and Care to please him, inspired him but with Scorn, and increased his Esteem for the *Muffy's* Daughter ; preferring the least look from her, to all the Flatteries of her Rivals.

He never passed a Day without seeing her ; 'twas at her Feet, and in the Charms of her Conversation he would divert himself, after the Fatigue of the Hours he employed in State Affairs, which notwithstanding his Love he never neglected. At last, not being able to live any longer without *Aphendina*, he took a firm Resolution to venture all,

all, to make himself happy ; but as the Design he was forming, was not without Difficulties, he was willing first to try once more if this virtuous Maiden would not consent to enter his *Seraglio*, hoping to oblige her to it, by the Honours he would have paid her, and the Rank he would assign her.

With this Intention, he went several Times to the *Mufly's Palace* ; but when he was upon the Point of making her the Proposal, the Modesty, that reigned all over her lovely Face, obliged him to Silence ; his Voice forsook him, a tender Fear seized him all over, and one would have thought, on seeing him in that Condition, that he was no longer *Osman*, the haughtiest and most eloquent of Mankind, but the most submissive Subject of a mighty Queen : The common Effect of Passions founded upon Esteem and Virtue, which cannot suffer even the Shadow of Licentiousness. Nevertheless, as Custom authorized this Prince in his Demand, and his Love would no longer admit of any Delay, he at last conquered himself so far, as to press *Aphendina* to yield to his ardent Passion. But whatever he could say, and although he made use of all his Charms to overcome her, he found her invincible upon this Head. Exasperated with a Refusal so full of Resolution :

“ I find but too plainly, (said he, with a melancholy and serious Air,) that you have never loved me. The Pleasure alone, of seeing your Emperor sighing at your Feet, has made you shew some Moment's Complaisance to my Passion. Cruel Fair, You have resolved the Death of *Osman* ; his Love is odious to you, and you have only raised his Love to the

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“ greatest Height, to render his Death the more
“ certain, by opposing his Happiness.

The *Sultan* utter'd these Words in such a moving Manner, and shewed so plainly that he believed what he said, that *Aphendina* was struck therewith as with a Thunder-bolt ; her Eyes overflowed with Tears, and falling at his Feet.

“ Ah ! my Lord, said she, how greatly does
“ your Highness wrong the unfortunate *Aphendina* !
“ I, who would Sacrifice even my Life for yours ;
“ I, who breath only for you ; I, who have loved
“ you, even from my Cradle, do I wish your
“ Death ! Ah ! if it is possible that you can re-
“ ally think so, do not delay mine one Moment ;
“ Life is odious to me, if the great *Osman*, whom
“ I Adore, can doubt one Instant of my most
“ intire Affection.”

Aphendina was so lovely in her Sorrow, and her modest Looks softened so effectually what her Love, forced her to say, that *Osman* could not resist them. He rais'd her up the very Minute she had fallen at his Feet, and held her Hands, to prevent her doing the same again ; and not being able sufficiently to express his Repentance for having griev'd her by Words sufficiently, Sharp, he kept his Eyes long fixed upon her's without uttering a single Syllable : But this dumb Language was infinitely more Eloquent than the best chosen Expressions. At last, forcing himself to break Silence. “ Adorable *Aphendina*, said
“ he, forgive me my Despair ; I will no longer
“ question your Tenderness ; but, continued he,
“ with a deep Sigh, What then would you have
“ me do ?”

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" Let your Highness love me, replied she, readily ; let him permit me to devote my Heart wholly to him ; and let him exact from my Love only the Confession I make thereof every Day ; since no other Favours are consistent with Virtue, as they are not lawful. This is what I expect from my Emperor, and what I dare desire of my dear *Osman*. Let us love, my Lord, continued she tenderly, for the sole Pleasure of loving. If my Love was attended with Ambition, I would accept, without Hesitation, the Honour, you think you do me ; I would go into the *Seraglio*, and brave the Pride of the *Sultana Queen* ; I should enjoy the Term of my Happiness, as she has enjoyed her's, without troubling my self about its Continuance.

" But, my Lord, 'tis not the Emperor I love, " it is *Osman* ; and not being able to possess him alone without Fears, and without Rivals, I leave them the Monarch, and will only reserve myself the Lover ; I want neither Grandeur, nor Riches, my own Rank satisfies my Pride, " but your Heart alone can satisfy my Love".

The amorous Emperor, whose Soul was no less generous than *Aphendina's*, could not forbear admiring her Sentiments ; and being convinced that he should never obtain more of her, he left her yet more enamoured than when he entered, but in a profound Melancholy.

Aphendina having informed the *Musfti* of this Conversation, that he might endeavour to dispel the *Sultan's* Sadness, he began to be actually afraid, this Prince would at last have Recourse to his Authority ; and having observed him for some

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Days afterwards, to remain still pensive, and even to behave with a sort of Coldness to him, he dreaded lest he should take some violent Resolution. Struck with this Thought, he communicated it to his Daughter, who not being able to suffer, even in her Father, a Suspicion that was injustice to *Osman's* Glory, spared no Pains to put it out of his Head.

“ What ! my Lord, said she, is it possible,
“ that having educated this Prince, and that
“ being privy to the Bottom of his Heart, from
“ his most tender Infancy, you should believe
“ him capable of rendering himself unworthy of
“ your virtuous Instructions? Which of his Actions,
“ induce you to judge so ill, of the inimitable
“ most virtuous Monarch that ever yet filled
“ the *Ottoman* Throne ? Has he ever yet done
“ any Thing contrary, to the Principles which
“ you have instilled into him ? Do you see him
“ form any cruel, unjust, or bloody Designs ?
“ What greater Proof can he give of the Excellence of his Soul, than the Care he takes of
“ the Education of his Brothers, and the Affection he has shewn them ? Far from taking
“ away their Lives, according to the barbarous
“ Custom of his Predecessors, he only endeavours to render them worthy to second him,
“ in the glorious Designs, which he is continually
“ forming for the Grandeur of the Empire ; and
“ abhorring the inhuman Policy of his Family,
“ he resolves only to imitate the Virtues of the Great *Ottoman*, from whom he derives his august Origin. Such, my Lord, such is *Osman* ;
“ and if you are afraid that Love will make him
“ derogate from such noble Sentiments, know to
“ remove your Fears, that notwithstanding the
“ vio-

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“ violence of his Passion, notwithstanding his
“ being possess'd of absolute Authority, he has
“ never said any Thing to *Afhad's Daughter*, that
“ could make her blush at his Affection. Com-
“ pose your self, therefore, my Lord, pursued
“ the charming *Aphendina*, if the Emperor is
“ pensive and if he shews you any Coldness, it
“ is wholly owing to the Situation of his Heart,
“ for his Esteem towards us is not in the least
“ diminished”.

The *Mufly*, who, in his Soul, did the *Sultan* the same Justice as his Daughter, and had only suffered himself to be misled by Fear ; because he could not conceive, how a Prince of such an Age, could put such a Constraint upon himself, to forbear making use of all his Power to satisfy a violent Passion, yielded to her Reasons ; and resolved not to say any Thing to this Prince, that could give him Room to think, he had taken any Notice of his pretended Change, but to behave to him as usual.

But whilst the *Mufly*, and *Aphendina*, judged so rightly of this Emperor's real Temper, the *Seraglio*, contained some Persons who were not so well affected to him ; and notwithstanding their being perfectly well acquainted with the uncommon Virtues of this Prince, their Hatred, Jealousy, and Ambition, would not suffer them to respect him.

The *Sultaness Kiosem*, whom *Osman's* Goodness had left in the *Seraglio*, to take Care of the Education of his Brothers, having not beheld, without Envy, his Advancement to the Empire, and seeking all Opportunities to destroy him, and

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place her Son *Amurath* upon the Throne, was no sooner informed of the Honours he had caused to be paid the *Mufly's* Daughter, than she took an extream Care, to excite against her, the Hatred and Jealousy of all the Ladies in the Seraglio: And as she was not ignorant of the Murmurs of the *Janizaries*, and the Emperor's Oath to punish them for their Baseness, she would not let slip so fair an Occasion to put in Execution her pernicious Design.

To this End, she set at Work several of her Emisaries, to exasperate this Body of Troops yet more against him, by giving them to understand, that this Prince having been highly offended at their Disobedience would never forgive it them. The *Janizaries*, struck with this Thought, which the excessive Severity of their *Ago's*, who punished the least Offence with Death, seemed to confirm to them were insensibly wrought up to a Spirit of Sedition, and the Continuance of these daily Punishments, increased it yet higher; insomuch that they no longer did their Duty without murmuring; crying openly, that *Osman* lavished shamefully the Blood of the *Mussulmen* without Reason, and only to satisfy his Cruelty and Caprice.

Kiosem being informed of this Disaffection, resolved to spread it likewise all over the Empire; and as during her great Interest in *Achmet's* Reign, she had placed Numbers of her Creatures in the best Posts of the Empire, who were intirely devoted to her Service, and whom the Emperor *Osman* had kept in their Employments, out of Respect to his Father, she resolved to make Use of them against him. Accordingly she sent away various Persons, whose Fidelity

was

was well known to her, to every Place where her Creatures were in Post, to inform them of the Discontents of the Soldiery, and to add, that the People were yet more dissatisfied than they ; besides which, they were to subjoin a thousand Falshoods concerning *Osman's* Character, and Incapacity for Government.

All these Calumnies worthy of the worst of Women, were instantly spread abroad, without her appearing to have any Hand therein, so well had she concerted her Measures ; lavishing her Treasures among her Emissaries, that they might take Care to procure her new Creatures, in every Province, where they rambled to publish their Impostures.

At length, Things were carried so far, that the Brother of a *Sangiack* of *Syria*, who had been one of *Kiosem's* Domesticks, arriving at *Damascus*, broke out into Invectives against the Government, in the Presence of several Persons of Distinction ; the two Brothers turning into Ridicule the *Poljsb* Expedition, and sparing neither the Emperor, nor his *Grand-Vizier*, of whom they said all that the blackest Calumny could invent.

These Aspersions were repeated so often, that at last they reached the Ear of the *Bassa* of *Damascus*, who in the Beginning despised these Slanders : But their persisting therein having opened his Eyes, he judged that this deliberate Malice, against a Prince who was the Darling of his People, could only proceed from a premeditated Design, both against him and the State ; the rather because this *Bassa*, who was one of the most understanding Men of the Empire, had study'd *Os-*

man

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man with a particlar Attention, when he joined him in the Camp against the *Poles*, and had found none but great Qualities in him, and a thousand Virtues, without Allay : This devoted him so strongly to that Prince, that 'twas piercing him to the Heart, to say, or think any Ill of him. Wherefore to discover the Source of so many Lies, he caused the two Brothers to be seized ; who having been separately examined, were found so guilty, that they were put to the Rack ; and died in the most exquisite Torments ; without its being ever possible to make them confess, who were the Persons who employed them.

But the Proceedings having been transmitted to the *Porte*, the Suspicion fell wholly upon *Uffaim*, second *Vizier*, who in the End bore all the Punishment ; the inhuman *Kiosem* taking Care to confirm every one therein, without feeling any Remorse, at the Innocents suffering the Pains due only to her Crimes.

All these Rumours, however, as well as the Discourse, and Murmurs of the *Janizaries*, were not known by *Osman*, till long after, the *Grand-Vizier Dilaver*, having employed his utmost Care, and Authority to destroy them. This was the more easy for him, as these Slanders had not made the least Impression, upon any Person of Distinction, nor even upon the Body of the People ; the former being near at Hand to observe all the Virtues of this Monarch, and the latter loving him even to Adoration.

As for his own Part, being wholly taken up with the Affairs of State, and those of his Court ; and satisfied with his own Prudence, he never de-

deviated from what that prescribed him, not even in the Height and Ardour of his Love; which having made him form a very bold Design, did not, however, induce him to put it in Execution, without consulting Persons capable of giving him such Lights, as the Excess of his Love might have made him over see.

Wherefore, he summoned the *Grand Vizier*, the *Captain Bassa*, or High Admiral, the *Kaimakan*, or Governor of Constantinople, and the *Aga* of the *Janazaries*, Colonel General of all the Infantry, which are the four chief Posts of the Empire: He summon'd likewise the *Kisler-Agasy*, who was an Officer of Importance in whom his Father reposed an entire Confidence. The first four of these Ministers had had their Employments conferr'd on them by *Osman*, who knew their Capacities, and therefore loved them; and as he had an Esteem for the *Kisler-Agasy*, he summoned him also to this Cabinet Council.

These five Persons then having hastened to obey his Orders, he led them into his Closet, and told them, that he had not summoned them as Emperor, but as his Friends, to whom he wanted to communicate an Affair which regard'd himself personally, and about which he was willing to consult them. This Discourse, which prepared them for something extraordinary, gave them some Surprize; but they made no other Answer then by bowing very low, to testify their Submission; whereupon *Osman*, after having paus'd a Moment, spoke to them as follows.

“ You will perhaps be astonish'd, at my choosing Persons of your Age and Gravity to consult

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" consult with, and make the Confidants of
" a Passion, almost inseparable from my Child-
hood ; but your Wisdom and Experience are
" as necessary to me therein, as in Affairs of
" State ; since my Happiness and Repose de-
pend absolutely, upon what I am going to de-
clare to you.

" I have loved, pursued he, from my most
" tender Infancy, *Aphendina Ahdada*, the *Mufti's*
" Daughter; I am likewise belov'd by her
" again; you are not ignorant that we have been
" brought up together ; but you could not know
" that our Love has gather'd fresh Strength,
" in Proportion as our Age and Reason taught
" us to know ourselves. Nevertheless, in Spite
" of this mutual Affection, I am not a jot
" the more Happy. *Aphendina*, whose Beauty
" has no Equal, is yet a thousand Times more
" virtuous than she is beautiful : All my Ser-
vices, my Prayers, and my most advantageous
" Offers, have never been able to induce her
" to enter my *Seraglio*, and enjoy the Honours
" I would there have render'd her; the Thought
" thereof alarms her Virtue ; she loves me, but
" she loves her Honour yet better : And I own
" to your Faces, that these Sentiments have
" devoted me a thousand Times more to her,
" than all the Lustre of her Beauty. I know
" the Extent of my Power, and that with one
" Word I can make my self obey'd ; but I nei-
ther can nor will have Recourse to my Au-
thority, against the Daughter of the *Mufti*.
" Such an Act of Violence suits so little with
" my Temper, that it has never so much as
" enter'd my Thoughts on any of *Aphendina's*
" Denials. More charm'd with her Virtues
" than

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" than with her Beauty, I have chose rather to
" imitate them, than to endeavour to force
" her; but as I find, that I cannot live satisfied
" without enjoying her, I have formed a Design
" to wed her, and place her upon the Throne.

" I am not ignorant of the Law made by the
" *Divan*, during the Troubles, which the Chil-
" dren of *Bajazet* excited in the Empire; but I
" know likewise, that this Law has never been
" justified by any of my Predecessors; and that
" the illustrious *Ottoman*, Founder of the Em-
" pire, his Son *Orcan*, *Amurath I.* and *Bajazet*,
" enter'd each of them into the Marriage State.
" I am inform'd, that the *Divan* did not make
" this Law, but upon a Report that after the
" Loss of the Battle of *Sivas*, which *Tamerlane*,
" great *Cham* of *Tartary*, gain'd over the too-
" unfortunate *Bajazet*, when this Prince, and
" almost all his Court were taken Prisoners;
" that the barbarous *Tamerlane* being at Table
" with *Bajazet*, and the Empress his Consort,
" of the Blood of the *Paleologues*, had the Cru-
" elty to command that Princes to rise, bring
" his Cup, and fill him some Drink; and that
" 'twas affirmed this Affront stung *Bajazet* more
" sensibly, than all the Rigours of his Captivity:
" But this Adventure was never well proved;
" and it was without examining well into it,
" that the *Divan* made this Law, to which even
" *Amurath II.* paid no Regard; since he mar-
" ried the eldest Daughter of the *Despot* of
" *Servia*, of the same Family of the *Paleologues*:
" Neither did *Soliman II.* pay greater Sub-
" mission thereto, having first set *Roxolana* free
" from his Sovereign Authority, and afterwards
" marry'd her.

" Never-

“ Nevertheless, I will not conclude an Affair
“ of this Importance, without taking your Ad-
“ vice thereon : I esteem your Counsels, and
“ notwithstanding the Violence of my Love,
“ be assured that I will receive them as Proofs
“ of your Zeal and Affection for me, however,
“ you shall determine.

The *Bassa's*, who during *Osmans* Discourse, had admired his Address, in pointing out to them the Difficulties, wherewith they might have combated the Examples which justified him in following his Inclinations ; finding that he had alledged himself all that they could have answer'd, and knowing besides, by the Fire that animated his Words, that his Love would get the better of all Reasons to the contrary, judg'd each of them within himself, that it would be to no Purpose to attempt to divert him from a Design, which he had form'd upon such mature Reflection. Wherefore, as soon as he had done speaking, they began by giving him Thanks for the Confidence wherewith he honour'd them, adding, that they could not too much admire his Prudence, on such Occasions, wherein commonly Princes of his Age glory'd in having none ; and that, in short, the Misfortunes alone of *Bajazet's* Reign, having given Birth to the Law, which was not favourable to his Desires, the Happiness that might be expected under his, might justify him in transgressing it ; and that with so much the less Difficulty, as he might be well assured, that neither *Ottoman*, *Orcan*, the first or second *Amurath*, or *Soliman II.* whose Examples he was inclined to follow, had ever been more beloved, more honour'd, or more fear'd

fear'd than his Highness, for his numberless Virtues.

This Answer gave the *Sultan* an extream Pleasure, which he testify'd by a thousand Marks of his Benevolence, and by entering with them into a familiar Conversation, wherein he display'd Graces that were peculiar to himself; and discover'd such a surprising Wit and Penetration, that they were in Raptures when they heard him. Then enjoying them the strictest Secresy, not being willing that the *Mufly*, or his Daughter, should be made acquainted with his Intentions but by himself, he dismiss'd them; treating them with such distinguish'd Goodness as so much affected them, that they unanimously agreed, there could not be a Prince either more lovely, more worthy to be beloved, or more capable of gaining the most difficult Points.

The very next Morning *Osman* went to the *Mufly's* Palace ; but on going in, he put on such a grave and serious Air, that it gave *Aphendina* some Uneasiness. The *Sultan* observed it, and resolving that Day to revenge himself agreeably for all the Trouble his Love had caused him, he joined to this severe Carriage some Words that were much more so.

“ *Aphendina*, said he, addressing himself to her, before the *Mufly*; your Denials have brought me to such a violent pass, that I can no longer make any Resolutions which are not so. I am now come to a fix'd Determination, you shall go into my *Seraglio*; my Passion can no longer be restrain'd within the Bounds prescrib'd by you, and I will be obey'd ”.

“ My

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“ My Lord, answer’d this generous Maiden,
“ (using her utmost Efforts to surmount her Grief,
“ and her Tears:) If your Highness is resolv’d
“ on making use of your Authority, and will
“ treat me like a Slave, I must submit to your
“ sovereign Pleasure ; but at the same Instant,
“ by putting an End to my Life, I shall know
“ how to punish my self, for having inspired the
“ greatest Monarch in the World with such un-
“ worthy Sentiments.

Osfman, who observed her attentively all the while she was speaking, taking Notice that she grew pale, and believing he already saw her expire, trembled in his Turn ; and immediately throwing off his Dissimulation, and following only the Dictates of his Love : “ No, no, cry’d
“ he, with Precipitation, you shall not die, my
“ dearest *Aphendina*, my Sentiments are always
“ worthy of your tenderest Affection ; You shall
“ indeed, go into the *Seraglio*, but so far shall
“ you be from entering it as a Slave, that you
“ shall only enter it as my Equal, by sharing
“ my Throne ; in a Word, you shall enter it
“ as my Wife. And you, my dear *Ashad*, con-
“ tinued he, turning to the *Musty*, you, whom I
“ have always called Father, become so in Rea-
“ lity by this illustrious Alliance ; let it be your
“ Happiness, as it is about to compleat my
“ Felicity ; and from this Day no longer look
“ upon *Aphendina*, but as your Empress.

Never was Surprise greater than that of the beauteous *Aphendina*; the *Musty* and she would each have prostrated themselves at the Sultan’s Feet ; but he prevented them : And the Love and Joy
which

which sparkled in his Face, having restored Tranquillity to the Minds of the Father and Daughter, they each of them express'd their Gratitude and Affection in the liveliest Terms, and return'd him Thanks for this glorious Proof of his Goodness and Esteem.

The *Mufly*, who had long had this exalted Rise in View, and had flattered himself with the Hopes thereof, from the Moment he had an Insight into *Osman's* Temper, was not so much astonished thereat as *Aphendina*; all his Surprize being confin'd to the Suddenness of the Resolutions, and the Secrefy he had observed therein; but as for *Aphendina*, she was so much the more amazed thereat, as she had never raised her Thoughts to this eminent Degree of Grandeur; all her Ambition being confined to the sole Happiness of being beloved by the Prince she ador'd; and this perfect Disinterestedness was so deeply rooted in her Heart, that her Niceness making her fear, the *Sultan* should think her Resistance had been only design'd to bring him to this Point, she justified herself with a Modesty so full of Charms, that *Osman* could not prevail on himself to interrupt her, by Reason of the Pleasure he took in hearing her, altho' he was fully assured of the Candour of her Sentiments.

At last, after having allow'd a sufficient Time to the first Emotions caused by this extraordinary Event; *Osman* and *Aphendina*, more enamour'd than ever with each other, broke out mutually into the most tender and passionate Expressions that Love could dictate; and the *Sultan* being willing to delay his Happiness as little as possible, left her only to consider of the proper

Prepara-

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Preparations for this august Ceremony. Accordingly he gave effectual Orders, that nothing should be wanting to the Magnificence of so great a Solemnity; wherein he was so punctually obey'd, that in a Fortnight every Thing was prepared to his Desires.

The Report hereof being diffused abroad in the Seraglio and the City, there was not one who did not approve of this Prince's Choice. The *Divan* desired they might be permitted to congratulate the *Sultan* thereupon; which being granted, they waited on him, and without so much as mentioning the Law against it, extoll'd and applauded this illustrious Match: The *Cadileskiers* also, with the *Imans*, and other Doctors of the Law, had the same Honour. These Proofs of their Zeal gave the Emperor an extream Pleasure; but what crown'd his Satisfaction was, the hearing that all *Constantinople* resounded with the Names of *Osman* and *Aphendina*, and that the News having reach'd the farthest Provinces, the whole Empire extoll'd his Wisdom, and cry'd him up beyond any of his Predecessors.

At last, all Measures being taken for this great Solemnity, it was proclaim'd the Day before, by the Firing of the Cannons of the Seraglio, and the City Ramparts, which were continually answer'd by those of the Arsenal, of *Pera*, and the Vessels and Castles on both Sides of the *Bosphorus*. The same Day the *Sultan* sent his Presents, which were of inestimable Value, to the *Mufsy's* Daughter, by the *Kaimakan*, whom this Prince, according to the *Turkish Custom*, had chosen Father to give him *Aphendina*.

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The next Day, the two *Cadileskiers*, the *Cadis*, and several *Imans*, with the whole *Divan*, went to the *Mufly's* Palace. The High-Treasurer, the *Killer-Agasy*, and the four principal white Eunuchs of the *Seraglio* repaired thither also with a pompous Retinue; and the *Sultan* himself, to whom the least Delay was now become intolerable, going thither likewise, that his Presence might cut off several Ceremonies, and the Assembly being compleat, *Aphendina* entered the Room, magnificently dressed, and her Face covered with a Veil.

Then the two *Cadileskiers* read aloud the *Che-din* or Patent, whereof Care had been taken that it should be in the best Form that was possible, and wherein the Emperor *Osman* declared, that *Aphendina Ahsada* was free, and absolute Mistress of her own Will; that he received her as his Wife; that he assigned her a Million of Sultans out of his Demesnes for her Dowry, and that he endowed her with the like Sum, it being the Custom in *Turky*, for Husbands to give Portions to their Wives.

This being read, the *Mufly* presented to the two Lovers the Book of the *Akoran*, out of which they were made to repeat aloud several Prayers and Engagements to which their Law obliged them: This done, *Osman* and *Aphendina* laid their Hands upon the Book, and promised mutually to observe the Laws contained therein, and to defend them, after which the *Mufly* addressed himself to them in these Terms.

" Sage,

“ Sage, invincible, and powerful Emperor of
“ the true Believers, the Alliance which your
“ Highness has entered into with my Family,
“ does not make me forgetful of taking Care of
“ your Glory ; the more you heap your Honours
“ upon us, the more I ought to testify my Zeal
“ for your Service. Vouchsafe then to remem-
“ ber, great Emperor, that your Love for your
“ Spouse ought never to have any Influence
“ over Justice and Equity, and that her Power
“ over your Mind ought never to get the better
“ of your Reason. And you too fortunate A-
“ phendina, who by a happy Change, from being
“ my Daughter, as you were yesterday, are this
“ Day become my Empress, never forget, that it is
“ to Virtue alone, you owe this exalted Rise.
“ Let it be your sole Care to render your self
“ worthy thereof, by a sincere Affection to your
“ august Consort ; and only make Use of your
“ Influence over him, for the Welfare of the
“ State, the Glory of his Name, and the Happi-
“ ness of his People”.

Then having given them the usual Blessings, all the Assembly joined in their good Wishes for their Prosperity, and cried out with a loud Voice, *live for ever happy, our invincible Sultan Osman, and our august Empress Aphendina*: These Words were several Times repeated in the *Mosky's Palace*, and thence were communicated throughout the City. After this Ceremony, during all which *Osman* had seemed transported with a Joy, which his grave and modest Deportment could not wholly conceal, he gave full Scope thereunto, and approaching *Aphendina* before all the illustrious Assembly : “ At last then, said

Emperor of the TURKS. 25

said he, with an Air full of Charms, " My
" dearest *Aphendina*, I may proclaim the entire
" Love I bear you, without forcing a Blush from
" your Cheeks : No, added he, turning to the
" whole Assembly, my Happiness could not have
" been perfect, without your being Witnesses
" thereto".

At these Words, the Acclamations were renewed, and the modest *Aphendina* returned an Answer, with equal Submition and Tenderness ; after which the Emperor retired, and all Thoughts were bent on conducting the Empress to the Seraglio, which, was done, in the following Order. A thousand young *Janizaries*, who had been chosen out from the most comely amongst that Corps, were at the Head of this pompous Procession ; six *Bassa's* magnificently dressed, and mounted on stately Couriers, came after them, attended by their Slaves very richly habited ; then, at a certain Distance, followed the *Emirs*, or Descendants of the Prophet *Makomet* ; after them came the two *Cadileskiers*, the *Cadis*, the *Imans*, and several Superiours of the *Santons* and *Dervises*, who are a Sort of *Makometan* Monks.

These were followed by all the *Viziers* of the *Divan*, covered with Cloth of Gold and Jewels, and mounted upon white Horses, to testify their Colour. Next to them came the *Grand-Vizier*, having the *Ausfty* on the left, which is the place of Honour amongst the *Turks*. They were followed by a great Body of Musicians, two and two, some singing, and others playing upon different Instruments. Next to them came fifty of the principal Officers of the Arsenal richly dressed : Then appeared the High Treasurer alone ;

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and some Distance after followed the *Kaimacan-Bassa*, Father to the Empress for that Day, mounted upon white Horse, whose Mane and Tail hung down to the Ground, and adorned with royal Trappings.

Behind him followed several Slaves, dressed in white Sattin, carrying three great lighted Torches, of Virgin-Wax, and of an extraordinary Height and Bigne's, full of Gold Plates, and precious Stones ; after them came the *Kislar-Agassy*, accompanied with a great Number of Officers, designed for the Service of the Empress. Then appeared four large Canopies, two of Crimson, and two of blue Velvet, and covered with Pearls and Emeralds, which were only for State ; but some Distance after, was brought a Fifth, by several Black Eunuchs which cast such a Lustre, by Reason of the vast Quantities of Gold and precious Stones wherewith it was imbellished, that it dazzled the Eye : It had Crimson Curtains that hung down to the Ground, and drew close on every Side, under which the Empress rode on a most beautiful Courser.

After this followed her Coach drawn by eight white Horses, which was so rich in Jewels, that one would have thought they had ransacked the *East*, for Pearls and other precious Stones to adorn it : The Harness were of Crimson-Silk, and Gold, the Bits of Silver, and the Buckles and Bosses of the Bridles of pure Gold.

This was followed by eight other Coaches, filled with *Odalisks*, of an uncommon Beauty, having Black Eunuchs on each Side, magnificently dressed and mounted. After these came

a hundred young Slaves, as handsome as the *Odalisks*, mounted upon white Horses, all dressed-in white Sattin adorned with Ribbons of different Colours, and wearing a sort of Cap, to which was fastened a Plume of Feathers enriched with Diamonds, part of their Hair being tyed up, and part playing upon their Shoulders: Five Hundred *Spakis* cloe the Cavalcade.

This pompous Proceſſion paſſed through great Part of the City, accompanied by the Shouts of an infinite Number of People, and arrived at the first Gate of the *Seraglio*; where the *Sultan* on Horseback, attended by his principal Officers, was waiting the Empress's Coming. They then croſſed all the ſpacious Courts of this vast Palace, where the Acclamations redoubled, whilſt all the Cannon were diſcharged. As ſoon as the Empress was arrived, at the Bottom of the Stair-Cafe be-longing to the Appartmenſ appointed for her, *Osman* himſelf helped her to diſmount, and be-ing willing to give this Part of his Subjects, the Satisfaction of ſeeing this Princess, contrary to the jealous Custom of the *Turks*, he cauſed the Curtains of the Canopy to be drawn, that as ſhe got off her Horse, ſhe might be ſeen on all Sides. *Apkendina* would have fallen at his Feet, but he prevented her, and taking her by the Hand, lifted up the Veil which hid her Face, and diſcovered to all their Eyes that prodigious Beauty, of which no Heart could be inſenſible; then raiſing his Voice: *Meffulmen*, ſaid he, *enjoy for the firſt Time, the Happiness to behold your Empress: you have al-ready approved of my Choice through Obedience, applaud it now by the Knowledge I am willing to give you of the moſt diſiſhed Work of the Creation.*

After these Words, he again let fall the Veil of *Aphendina*, whose transcendent Charms, tall, fine, and majestick Shape, Sweetnes, and uncommon Modesty, transported the Spectators with such Admiration, that not being able to find Words to express themselves, they broke out every Moment into Shouts that pierced the Skies; and as soon as they could utter themselves, it was only to repeat a thousand Times, *long live our invincible Emperor, and our incomparable Empress.* Osman then conducted her into the Apartment prepared for her, whose Magnificence is not to be described: In short, it was such, that the *Bessa*'s whom the Sultan had retained with him, could not forbear being surprized at the elegant Fancy of this young Monarch, who had ordered and managed every Thing himself, not having referred the Care thereof to any one.

This Prince's Joy was then so perfect, that it displayed itself in all his Actions; never had the great Officers of his Court seen him of so free and affable an Air; suiting with singular Art, the Majesty of his Rank, to the Familiarity wherewith he was willing to honour them: It is likewise certain they all loved him so passionately, that they would have sacrificed themselves for him. At Night, there were Illuminations all over the *Seraglio*, with several Fireworks in those sumptuous Gardens. The Sultan gave likewise a magnificent Entertainment to his principal Ministers. The whole City of *Constantinople* was illuminated, the Shops were all open, and set off with the richest Furniture the Owners could provide, besides vast quantities of Torches and Tapers, whose Light being reflected by Numbers of Chrystral

Chrystal Branches, and Glasses, made a most glorious Day of a most obscure Night.

All the Places on the other Side the *Bosphorus* were likewise illuminated to the best Advantage ; but what afforded a Sight at once terrible and agreeable was, to see the Sea covered with Fireworks, representing the largest Sea-Monstets combatting each other, and throwing Flames from their Mouths and Nostrils, with such a dreadful Noise, that all the Shore resounded therewith ; which together with the Thunder of the Cannon that were continually firing, struck the Mind with a sort of Terror, that one could not master.

These Rejoicings lasted about three Weeks, during which *Constantinople* put on every Day a new Face ; the great Officers, and the People, striving equally to signalize their Joy : And what was very admirable was, that during all these Rejoicings, not the least Disturbance happened, nor the least Quarrel ; the *Turks* being the sworn Enemies of all Disorders, observe such an exact Discipline in their civil Government, and are so severe, that those who transgress it are punished immediately upon the Spot, without any Mercy. The same Rejoicings were likewise celebrated in all the Provinces of the Empire, Orders having been dispatched for that Purpose, long before the Day of this Ceremony.

As soon as the *Sultan* had conducted the Empress into her Apartment, all the Ladies of the *Seraglio* waited upon her, to have the Honour of kissing her Hand. The artful *Kiosem* was at their Head ; and although she was ready to burst with Envy and Malice, as well as the others, as she

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was a Mistress of Dissimulation to the highest Degree, no one knew any Thing that passed in her Heart. The virtuous *Aphendina* received her Congratulations, with the same Sincerity as she thought she observed in that wicked Woman, who to conceal her inward Rage, did not scruple setting an Example to the others, by falling at the Empress's Feet. Hereupon the Princesses, who knew the Rank and Authority she held during Achmet's Life, raised her up immediately, and embraced her with great Goodness. All the other *Odalisk's* did the like, and the Empress shewed each of them a thousand Marks of Esteem. But the young *Mirza*, who, but two Days before, was still *Sultana Queen*, and that Moment lost her Title, her Rank and the Heart of *Osman* for ever, did not approach *Aphendina*, but with Sorrow ; and as she made no Haste to pay her Rival those Honours which pierced her Soul, she was the last who kissed her Hand.

The *Sultaness Kiosem*, who named them one after another to the Empress, having presented to her *Mirza*, who drew near, with a trembling Step, and her Veil half down, to hide the Tears which trickled down her Cheeks, *Aphendina* was moved therewith, and touched with a generous Pity. Wherefore, she no sooner saw her humble herself so far, as to offer to kneel down, than she prevented her, by reaching out her Hand, which the disconsolate *Sultana* kissing, let fall a Shower of Tears thereon, which she could not restrain. But the Empress, far from resenting this Grief, on a Day when nothing but Joy was talked of, expressed only the more Goodness to this unfortunate Lover ; giving her a thousand tender Careless

resses, and endeavouring to comfort her by the most obliging Looks and Expressions.

A Procedure so full of Charms, wrought partly the Effect she expected in *Mirza's* Heart; the young *Sultana*, sensible of the particular Proofs she gave her of a sincere Kindness, lost the Hatred she had conceived against her, and joining to her Astonishment, at this Princess's dazzling Beauty, the greatest Admiration of her Wit, Sweetness of her Temper, and Sympathizing in the Sorrows of her Rival, she could not refuse her the Praises she so much deserved; and without ceasing to love *Osman*, and to be desperately afflicted at his Loss, she conceived a real Friendship for the incomparable *Apkendina*.

When all the Ceremonies of the Day were over, the new married Pair again came together; and never did two Hearts tenderly united, better know the Value of their Happiness, than this august Couple. The Day after this happy Night, the Emperor ordered an Entertainment on the *Bosphorus*. The Vessels wherein this Prince and the Empress were themselves, with Part of the Ladies of the *Seraglio*, was gilt even to the Water, as well as the Oars; the Cords of the Tackling were all of Silk and Gold, the Masts gilt, and filled with Devices and Cyphers, wherein, the Names of *Osman* and *Apkendina* were interwoven a hundred different Ways; and the Sails were Silk, and of a deep Crimson, which being the *Sultans* favourite Colour, none besides dare use it. To compleat the Pomp of this magnificent Vessel, it was steered by the *Bostangi Baffa*, or Chief of the Gardiners (an Office of great Importance among the *Turks*) who, as has been be-

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fore observed, has alone the Right to be Pilot to the *Grand Signior*, when he takes the Air on the *Bosphorus*; and all the Rowers and Sailors were young select *Bostangis*, dressed in Silk of various Colours.

Divers other Vessels, magnificently equippt, attended the *Grand Signior*, in which were all the great Officers of the *Porte*. Never did any Thing more gallant or more splendid appear upon that Sea; all the *Bassis* having distinguished themselves, by striving to out-do each other, in some particular Magnificence. At the same Time the Emperor *Osman*, being willing to give all his Subjects fresh Marks of his Confidence and Goodness, had desired the Empress to throw aside her Veil, which she did as soon as the Vessel began to move; she was so richly dressed, and so well set off with Diamonds, that it was hardly possible to support the Splendor wherewith she was surrounded; but she was so exquisitely beautiful, that she even out shined her own Ornaments: And accordingly the enamoured *Osman*, beheld her with an Eye, wherein, Love, Joy, and Satisfaction, were painted to the highest Degree.

On the other Hand, *Aphendina*, who was now no longer restrained by vain Scruples, made a suitable Return thereunto, by Looks full of Tenderness and a thousand ingaging Ways, which sufficiently shewed without any Affectation, that in the midst of so many Honours, and so many Witnesses of her Grandeur, she thought *Osman* alone worthy of her Affection, or her Regard. And indeed, it is certain, that they alone surpass'd each other in all that was great and lovely.

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The Empress had herself named the Ladies who were to be of this Party ; and as she was entirely free from all Jealousy, she had pitched upon the most beautiful ; She intended also to have had the charming *Mirza* ; but that disconsolate *Sultaneſſe* conjured her so strongly to excuse her, that she preſſed her no farther ; and as ſhe perceived ſome Alteration in her Looks, which ſhewed ſhe was indiſpoſed, ſhe expreſſed a kind Concern thereat, and on leaving her desired ſhe would be careful of her Health, and be auſſured ſhe would ſpare no Pains to alleviate her Misfortune. So much Goodneſſe entirely gained the Heart of *Mirza*, but nevertheless ſhe ceaſed not to be as unhappy as before ; for being unable to hate her Rival, or forbear loving her Emperor, the Struggle between Love and Friendship cauſed her more Torments, than ſhe could poſſibly have ſuffered from Hatred and Revenge.

Osman, who had been informed, what had paſſed between the Empress and *Mirza*, found therein fresh Caufe for esteeming that Princess more than ever ; nevertheless he took not the leaſt Notice thereof to her, but was ſo well pleaſed with it in his Heart, that he reſolved to ſhew her his Acknowledgment by his Indiſference to all that could give her any Umbrage. Accordingly he would not ſo much as Name *Mirza*, or inquire after her in any Manner ; and although he ſaw very well ſhe had not accompanied the Empress, he affected not to have taken any Notice of it, ſtudying only how to convince that Princess of his Love and Fidelity.

After injoying the Pleasure of the Water for some Time, *Osman* ordered the *Bostangi Baffa* to steer for *Scutari*, formerly *Calcedonia*, where he had secretly prepared a magnificent Entertainment, with Design to surprize the whole Court. The Palace and Gardens of this delicious Place, have been so much imbellished by the Care of the *Ottoman* Emperors, that they have made it a Terrestrial Paradise, notwithstanding the Barrenness of the Soil. This was the delightful Mansion, appointed by *Osman*, to give his Court a Taste of that sweet Freedom, so uncommon among the Great, and so unusual with the *Mussulmen*, when admitted to share in the Pleasures of their Sovereign. The *Sultan*, whose good Sense, and Sentiments, were above the ceremonious Formalities inseparable from his Rank, and who endeavoured to make himself as much beloved as feared, was on this Occasion all Goodness, Gaiety, and Affability ; and whilst his Highness was regaling the great Officers of the *Porte*, the Empress with the Ladies of her Retinue, were feasted in another Room, with equal Magnificence. This Entertainment lasted till Night came on, when this illustrious Company reimbarked again, in order to return to *Constantinople*, and entered the *Seraglio* by the Gate that opened to the Sea.

Here they were again surprized with a new Entertainment ; a multitude of Fireworks were played off to Admiration, and as the Captain *Baffa*, or High Admiral passed by, a Number of Sea-Monsters, throwing out Flames on all Sides, came with the great Violence to attack his Vessel. That Officer was not in the least prepared for them, but judging that the *Sultan* had

had ordered it so to take him unawares, and divert himself the better, he humoured the Jeſt with a good Grace, and endeavoured to give him all the Pleasure he had hoped for. Accordingly he put himself in a Poſture of Defence, and ſpared no Pains, to render the Combat worthy his Maſter's Attention. It laſted almost during all their Paſſage, with the great Applauſe of all this little Fleet, and great Marks of Satisfaction in the *Sultan*, and his beauteous Conſort.

Next Day, his Highneſs permitted all the Mi-niſters and *Baffas* at the *Porte*, to congratulate him on his Nuptials, at the Foot of his Throne. On this Occaſion again, one may judge of the Grandeur of the *Ottoman* Monarch, by the Splendor and Magnificence of the Grandees of his Empire; for not to mention the *Grand Vizier*, or the three next great Officers of the *Porte*, *Soliman*, *Baffa* of *Egypt*, will alone ſuffice for a Proof there-of. This *Baffa*, who was one of the best made Men in the Empire, entered the *Seraglio*, mounted upon a fine *Arabian*, whose Accoutrements were valued at a thouſand Chequins; his Robes were covered with Pearls and Diamonds, which were ſet off with a graceful Person, that had at once an Air of Majefty, Sweetneſs, and War. He was attended by twelve Hundred of his Houſhold, richly dressed, and mounted upon beautiful *Arabians*; and he made the *Sultan* a Preſent of a hundred thouſand Sultanins, which are about half a Million of *French Livres*: The other *Baffas* did the ſame in Proportion to their Employments.

The following Days all the Orders of the Imperial City had the ſame Honours; but not one
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of them approached the Throne, without some Present ; it being the Law of the *Seraglio*, that no Body, whether a Foreign Ambassador, or Subject of the Empire, must come near the *Grand Signior*, without a Present worthy of his Highness. The Rejoycings for these Nuptials lasted twenty Days, during which, several Games and fine Shews were exhibited in the *Hippodrome*, and other publick Places of this great City, and the Emperor frequently honoured which with his Presence.

As this Prince, to all his other fine Qualities, was very grateful for any Service that had been done him, or any Friendship that had been shewn him, neither his Joy, his Pleasures, or his Greatness, made him forget, that *Fatima*, Wife to the *Sangiac-beg* of the *Morea*, had formerly expressed for him the Affection of a Mother, and that he had loved her as if she had really been so. Wherefore not doubting but she would be overjoyed to see him again, as well as the admirable *Aphendina*, who had passed part of her Childhood with her, he wrote to her and the *Sangiac-beg* of the *Morea* to come to *Constantinople*. This Proof of *Osman's* Remembrance, gave *Fatima* so much Pleasure, that she thought she could not shew it better, than by her ready Obedience. Accordingly they lost not a Moment, and when they arrived at that Capital, sent Notice thereof to the *Sultan*, who immediately dispatched the *Kifser Agasy* to *Fatima* to bring her to the *Seraglio*, where that Prince received her in the Empress's Apartment.

As soon as this *Sultaneſſ* saw the Emperor, ſhe would have thrown herſelf at his Feet ; but *Oſ-*

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man, reaching out his Arms, embraced her tenderly, and called her his Mother; after which leading her to the Empress, who likewise prevented her kneeling; " This my dear *Fatima*, said he, is the incomparable *Aphendina*, whose Wit and Charms you have so often admired. I was willing to let you share a Moment in Happiness she makes me enjoy, to the End I might shew you I have never forgotten you; and although I am sensible your Stay in my Seraglio, will deprive the *Sangiac* of his greatest Delight, the Empress and I could not refuse ourselves the Satisfaction of keeping you with us some Days."

Fatima had been so much dazzled, with the Increase of *Aphendina* and *Osman's* Beauty, and took so great a Pleasure in beholding them, that she had not been able to find Words to express herself, but suffered the Emperor to go on, without so much as thinking of breaking Silence, seeming in a manner confounded, at the Sight of so many Charms: But, at last, seeing *Osman* expected her Answer.

" My Lord, said she, your Highness easily sees the Reason of my being Speechless, at these Testimonies of your Goodness. In Effect, continued she, with a charming Air, who can behold an Assemblage of so many Beauties, in two august Objects, without being seized at once, with Love, Joy, and Admiration! I had rightly judged from your Infancy, and that of this great Princess, that you would both be the Master-pieces of Nature; but I must confess, that whatever Idea had formed to myself thereof, or whatever Description

“ scription I have heard thereof from Fame, I
 “ never expected what my Eyes now see: A
 “ Moment so much the more valuable to me,
 “ in that your Goodness in giving me this glori-
 “ ous Satisfaction, is pleased to join thereto the
 “ Testimony of a Friendship a thousand times
 “ dearer to me than Life.”

Fatima uttered these Words with so much Grace, that the beauteous *Aphendina* could not forbear imbra ing her again, to testify her Grati tude; and if this Princeps was looked upon as a Prodigy, she was no less charmed with *Fatima*; that *Sultana* having still preserved her Beauty although she was no longer young; and as she had a great and noble Air, her Age rendered her yet more to be respected, so that one could not see her without having for her all the Esteem and Value she deserved: And indeed, *Osman*, and the Empress were so much taken with her, that they kept her a Fortnight in the *Seraglio*, striving to out-do each other, by a thousand Proofs of their perfect Friendship and entire Confidence

During this Stay, the *Sangiac-beg* her Husband had the Honour to kiss the Emperor’s Hand, and to be often sent for; and his Highness having found him worthy of his Esteem, made him a *Bassa*, both to reward the Services he had done under the Reign of his Father *Achmet*, and to give *Fatima* fresh Marks of his Good-will: And they both set out from *Constantinople*, crown’d with Honours, and loaden with Presents from the Emperor and Empress, who did not part with *Fatima* without a sensible Regret.

In the mean while, all these Rejoicings, Pleasures, and Occupations, did not prevent *Osman's* applying himself assiduously to the Affairs of State, to which he gave the utmost Attention; having never spent a single Day, without appointing set Hours to confer about them with his Ministers. Not long after the Rejoicings for his Marriage, three Suns were seen in the Heavens, at eight a Clock in the Morning. The People of the *Ottoman* Empire, more Superstitious than others, were terribly alarmed thereat, imagining it portended some great Misfortune to the State; but the *Sultan*, who was versed in the Effects of Nature, being willing to dispel the Terror that had seized even on the most resolute, displayed in a full *Divan*, the Sublimity of his Genius, and shewed he was as admirable for his Wit, as for the Charms of his Person, explaining to them by the Rules of Philosophy, the Cause of this *Phænomenon*; till at last by his Eloquence and profound Knowledge, he removed their Fears, and made them as much ashamed thereof, as they were in Admiration at his uncommon Endowments.

However, the ambitious *Kiosem*, whose Soul was tortur'd with the most cruel Envy, Hatred and Jealousy, enraged to see the Peoples Love for *Osman* and the Empress, and taking Advantage of every Thing to attain her Ends, did not let slip the Opportunity of this *Phænomenon* to excite Jealousies and Discontent in the Hearts of the People: Especially the *Janizaries*, who were the more disaffected to the Emperor, as they not only knew they had been wanting in their Duty to him, but likewise that they were not much in his Esteem. Wherefore, she caused her Emisaries to give

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give out among the People, and the Soldiers, that the three Suns lately seen, were a Presage of the Misfortunes that were to happen under *Osfman's Reign*; that Prince despising the Laws exactly observed by his Father, and Predecessors; as he had evidently shown, in being married; that this was a Proof, there was nothing so sacred, or so much to be respected, which he was not ready to violate, to indulge his Caprice and his Passions; wherefore they were o expect nothing but the most fatal Calamities under such a Government.

These Words, a thousand times repeated, fail'd not to make mischievous Impressions on these base and groveling Souls; and dispos'd them insensibly to shake off a Yoke, which seemed to them the more intolerable, as they had not Wit nor Sense enough to know the Value of, and distinguish, the Virtues of *Sultan Osman*, from the Vices of his Predecessors. This Prince's fine Qualities seemed to them strange and of no Use, having had no Examples of the like in other Emperors; a common Effect of the Judgment of rude mercenary Fellows, who never being able to raise their Thoughts above what is in themselves, can only discover in others, those Perfections that come within their own narrow Sphere, and represent Virtues as Vices, because they are themselves Strangers to them.

The Emperor *Osfman*, to whom these Reports and Murmurs were related, and who than was informed the Affair of *Damascus*, and the Insolencies of the *Janizaries*, was only yet the more exasperated against them, and more bent than ever on being revenged on them: But as he had formed a great Pro-

Emperor of the TURKS. 41

Project, and was wholly taken up about the Means to execute it, he delayed the Effects of his just Anger against the Mutineers, to enable himself the better to punish them as they deserved; wherefore, without troubling himself about the injurious Discourses of these Soldiers, he laboured without Intermission, at his vast Design.

This was, to arm powerfully both by Sea and Land, in order to seize on *Sicily*; to go from thence and make a Descent upon *Apulia*, and *Calabria*; to conquer the Kingdom of *Naples*, and march from thence directly to *Rome*, at the Head of three hundred thousand Men, and thereby subdue all *Italy*; not in the least doubting of an infallible Success; as knowing the *Spaniards* were fully employed in defending themselves against the victorious Arms of *Lewis XIII.* King of *France*, and the Emperor was scarce able to make Head against the *Swedes*, who had pushed their Conquests to the middle of *Germany*.

He had even already issued out his Orders, to have the Magazines filled all along the Coasts, from the *Morea* to *Dalmatia* and *Sclavonia*; a Precaution the Sultan's never fail to take, whenever they have formed any great martial Design. Two or three Years before they declare War, they fill their Magazines with all necessary Stores; which is the more easy, as this extensive Empire is divided into Governments under *Beglerbegs*, or Lords Paramount, or under *Bassas*, who are Lords of an inferior Degree, and a less extensive Jurisdiction. Every Government is again divided into several *Sangiacks*, which are, as it were, Lieutenancies, and every *Sangiack* is divided into several *Timars*, which are a sort of Commanderies.

All

All these Officers are obliged to furnish the *Sultan* with a certain Number of Soldiers, both Horse and Foot, whenever he commands it; as also to pay and maintain them. They are likewise obliged to furnish Ammunition and Provision; and the *Christians* who are possessed of Freeholds, besides paying so much a Head, are obliged to give the *Sultan* a Tenth of all their Fruits, and to have them carried, at their own Charge, to the Places appointed them by the civil Magistrates. Thus without its costing the *Sultan* any Thing, the Magazines are always filled; and as the Troops are paid in Money, they are obliged to buy all they want on their March, or in the Camp, at the *Sultan's* Magazines: This brings that Prince in immense Sums, the Soldiers being prohibited on the most severe Penalties, to exact the least Trifle, from the People subject to the Empire, that lye in their Way as they pass.

Not content with all these Precautions, the Emperor *Osman* issued Orders for the building two hundred Galleys, and a great number of other Vessels with all Speed; as also for the forging prodigious Quantities of Arms of all sorts, and casting Store of Cannon. These great Preparations alarmed all the Powers of *Europe* and *Asia*; but whilst every one reasoned according to his Fears or his Politicks, the Orders of the *Ottoman* Emperor were executed with incredible Diligence. Nevertheless, in Spight of the Satisfaction he felt, in being soon able to put his Project in Execution, there were some Moments wherein he appeared Melancholy and Pensive; and altho' it was plainly seen that he endeavoured to conceal his

his Trouble, he could not contain himself so much, but that the Empress perceived it.

This Princess, whom Love made watchful of his least Actions, could not behold with Ease the Alteration that appeared in her Husband's Temper; but not being willing to let him know all her Uneasiness, before she had discovered the Cause of his, she sent for the *Grand Vizier*, and the *Iman* who had been *Osman's* Preceptor, of whom she enquired, if they knew not the Reason of that Prince's profound Melancholy; being more likely to be acquainted therewith, than his other Ministers, as he reposed more Confidence in them. But they having answered her that they were Strangers to it, she resolved to force the Secret from the Emperor's own Mouth, as soon as she should have a favourable Opportunity.

She did not wait long; for that Prince having held a Cabinet Council next Day, wherein he declared to his chief Ministers the Scheme he had laid for the Conquest of *Italy*, he received such Applauses upon it, as must have satisfied him, if his Mind had been more composed. In Effect, the wisest of them unanimously admired his Capacity, and were infinitely surprized, that a Prince of his Age, should have formed of himself a Plan, so skilful and so prudent; wherein he seemed to have foreseen all the Difficulties that could arise, and at the same Time to have found the Means to surmount them. They all encouraged him to pursue this great Enterprize, assuring of the Consent of the whole *Divan* to the putting it in Execution.

As he came from the *Divan*, he went directly to the Empress, and although he ought to have been pleased with what had passed, he was no sooner at Liberty, than he fell into his usual Melancholy. Whereupon the Empress, not being able to bear any longer to live in the Condition to which this Sadness brought her, and hearkening only to her Despair, threw herself at his Feet, and imbracing his Knees, protested he would soon see her expire, if he did not inform her of the Cause of his Uneasiness.

The *Sultan*, touched to the Quick with this Action of *Aphendina's*, raised her up immediately, with the greatest Tenderness ; and fearing she should impute his Melancholy, to some Change in his Affections with respect to her, he put a Force upon himself to appear more cheerful ; and looking on her with an Eye, wherein the sincerest Love was painted : My dearest *Aphendina*, said " he compose your Mind ; the Chagrin you observe in me, will neither prejudice my Love to you, nor the extreme Confidence I shall always have in that you bear me ; 'tis an Affair of State that causes all my Uneasiness : I do not intend to conceal it from you ; but I have my Reasons for not informing you thereof, but in Presence of the *Grand Vizier*, *Ussain Effendy* ; and the Captain *Bassa*, whom I shall send for to Morrow to my Appartment. But, above all, my adorable Empress, be assured, that whatever Troubles discompose me, nothing in the World can abate the Ardour of my Affection".

The

The Empress, whom these tender Protestations restored to Life, answered them with all the Love, that a Passion such as *Osman's* could deserve ; and knowing him sincere in what he said, did not in the least doubt, but it was something of Importance to the State, which took up his Thoughts, and waited till next Day to be informed thereof ; not being willing to press him to tell her sooner, since he had resolved otherwise.

In Effect, he sent for those three Ministers, with whom he also joined *Viver Effendi Cessa*, and *Mahomet Aga, Bostangi Baffa*. Being come, he conducted them into his private Closet, where the Empress was before them, richly dressed and seated in an Alcove, with her Face veil'd. To these he began again to mention his Design in *Italy* ; which was also again admired by these five Ministers, who were Men of the greatest Experience in the Empire, and in whose Abilities *Osman* reposed most Confidence : But this Prince interrupting the Course of their Praises.

" I see, with Pleasure, said he, your Approbation of my Design, and am not insensible of the Praises you bestow thereon ; nevertheless, continued he, with a deep Sigh, I have still a very ticklish Affair to communicate to you, which I have not yet mentioned, and which is both necessary for the Welfare of the State, and of the utmost Consequence to myself in particular. 'Tis the Cowardice I have observed in my Janizaries ; their Mutinies and Disobedience to my Orders, were the Cause of my not reducing *Poland* under my Dominion ; and

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" and I fear the same Thing, if I should lead them
" into Italy.

" I am not ignorant of their Murmurs every
" Day against the Government, nor their insolent
" Discourses against my Ministers and my
" self: Their Impudence is come to such a
" Height, that it is no longer in my Power to
" dissemble my just Resentment. You all know,
" as well as I, that their Revolts have been fatal
" to many of my Predecessors, and that they have
" prevented their making great Conquests. Be-
" sides, the exorbitant Donative, required at
" every Change, gives them a Liking to every
" Change of Government. They long only for
" Novelty to satisfy their Avarice; and plun-
" der the Imperial City, on the least Report of
" the Sultan's Death being assured; that every
" Thing will be pardoned them by his Successor.
" 'Tis even to be feared, that after the Example
" of the *Praetorian Guards*, they may one Day
" massacre their Emperors, and give the Empire
" to the highest Bidder.

" What has happened heretofore in *Egypt*, is
" again another Proof how watchful one ought
" to be over the Insolence of the *Tanizaries*.
" The *Marrakes* were a Body of Soldiers form-
" ed out of young *Christian Slaves*, which the
" Kings of *Egypt* bought up for their own Use. They
" afterwards had them trained up to Arms, and
" of them they formed the Body of their Guards,
" who were for a long Time, the Basis and Sup-
" port of their Throne. But this Body being
" considerably enlarged from King to King, be-
" gan to degenerate from their former Virtues,
" committed Robberies every Day upon the na-
" tural

" natural Subjects of *Egypt*. The Kings would
" have punished them for it, but the *Mamalukes*
" revolting from them, after having massacred
" several of them, seized upon the Throne, unto
" which they advanced a Slave one of their own
" Body : And for the Space of three hundred
" Years successively, these Slaves have wrested
" their Patrimony, Liberty, and the supreme
" Authority, from those who should have been
" their Masters. Thus it continued till the
" Time of my Ancestor, the illustrious *Selim I.*
" who, by his Victories, revenged the antient
" Kings of *Egypt*, of the Tyranny, Murders and
" Robberies of the *Mamalukes*, exterminating the
" whole Race, and hanging upon a Gibbet
" *Campson*, the last of those Tyrants that possessed
" the Throne of *Egypt*, in order to appease the
" Shades of their lawful Sovereign.

" Who can assure us that the *Janizaries* will
" not do the same, whenever they shall
" think proper ; since they have already as-
" sumed to themselves the Power of reforming
" the State ; demanding of their Princes the
" Heads of any Ministers who displease them,
" and exact the augmenting of their Pay, and
" the Distribution of the Donative whenever
" they please ? Have they not carried their Vi-
" olences so far, as to force *Bajazet II.* to de-
" scend the Throne, and to place thereon the
" youngest of his Sons, contrary to the Order of
" Succession ? In short, their insolent Discourses
" against their Officers, the Ministers, and their
" *Sultans*, their Murmurs, and their frequent
" Disobedience are sufficient Reasons to give us
" Cause to apprehend the Consequences ; and
" this has made me take the Resolution to break
" this

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“ this impudent Corps, who no longer having
“ any Thing of the Virtue of their Ancestors,
“ are incapable of supporting the Glory of my
“ Empire, and to substitute in their Place, a Bo-
“ dy of *Arabians*, whom I saw fight against the
“ *Poles*, with the utmost Courage and Intrepidity.

“ But I would not determine absolutely upon
“ this, without first consulting you; your Prudence
“ inducing me readily to submit to your Advice”.
Then *Osman* addressing himself to the Empress:
“ I desire also, said he, sage *Aphendina*, that you
“ would give me your Opinion; I know your
“ Discernment, and the Compass of your Under-
“ standing; and I should think myself wanting
“ to the Dictates of my Reason, should I under-
“ take any Thing without imparting it to you
“ for your Approbation”.

The Empress made no other Answer to this obliging Discourse, but by a low Bow with her Head, and waited till the Ministers had declared their Sentiments: This they did, by beginning with their Admiration of his Courage, and just Reasoning. Then they represented to him, “ That the more
“ insolent the *Janizaries* were, the more it was
“ to be feared, upon the least Report of their being
“ to be broke, they would have Recourse to the
“ utmost Extremities; that they were Masters of
“ the Imperial City; and that his sacred Person
“ would remain exposed to the Insults of this ex-
“ asperated Soldiery, who being capable of
“ throwing off all manner of Respect, would
“ massacre indifferently, and without Distinction,
“ even Persons the most to be rever'd; that never-
“ theless it was just to punish so much Insolence,
“ and to revenge at once the *Sultans* his Predeces-
“ sors,

“ fors, and himself, of the Revolts of the sedi-
“ tious Mutineers ; that the great Officers of the
“ Porte had long thought this Corps too powerful,
“ and that the *Sultans* kept too great a Number
“ of them at *Constantinople*, which enabled them
“ to give Law to their Sovereigns ; but that
“ since their being settled there, these same
“ great Officers of the *Porte*, not having found in
“ any of the *Sultans*, an Inclination to humble them,
“ notwithstanding the fatal Misfortunes they
“ caused ; whether it was that they loved them,
“ or that they had not the same Courage as his
“ Highness, not one of them had dared dis-
“ cover what they thought of this Corps ; and
“ that since his Highness was resolved to get rid
“ of them, before he struck this bold Stroke, he
“ must begin by removing the Imperial Seat,
“ that he might be in a Condition to have no-
“ thing to fear from them ; that *Damascus*, the
“ Capital of *Syria*, one of the finest Cities of the
“ *East*, and *Grand Cairo*, famous for having been
“ the Residence of the Kings of *Egypt*, were e-
“ qually fit to receive that Honour ; that in either
“ the one or the other, he might, at Pleasure, ex-
“ terminate the Enemies of the State, and punish
“ the Seditious ; that it would be approved of by
“ all his People, who looked upon the *Janizaries*
“ as their Tyrants, by Reason of the Robberies
“ they every Day committed upon them ; but
“ that, in short, the only Way to effect it would
“ be to change the Imperial Seat.

This Advice pleased the Emperor *Osman* ex-
tremely, however he begged the Empress to tell
her Sentiments, not being willing to come to any
Resolution, before she had likewise spoken her
Mind. Hereupon, this discreet Princess, who

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had shuddered several Times with Terror, during this Conversation, had the Prudence to conceal the Trouble this Advice of the Ministers had excited in her Soul, and answered, " That she " was not sufficiently versed in Affairs of Government, to determine about a Thing of that Importance, in the Presence of the w^{ise}st and most able Ministers of the Empire ; and that since they approved his Designs, and had given him their Opinions, she thought that ought to suffice ; that nevertheless, if it was his absolute Will she should declare her Judgment upon this Head, she begged him to give her Time to consider a little upon it, and she would tell his Highness her Opinion." The Sultan by these Words, imagin'd *Aphendina* would not explain herself but to him alone, and did not press her any farther, but addressing himself to his Ministers told them, that he would follow their Counsels, and that he pitched upon *Grand Cairo* to be, for the future, the Seat of the Ottoman Empire. This said, he dismissed them, having first enjoyned them the strictest Secrecy.

When the Ministers were withdrawn, the Empress seeing herself at Liberty with her Spouse, lifted up her Veil ; and shewing him her Face all bathed in Tears : " What Advice my Lord, " said she, is your Highness going to follow ? Do you consider, that this insolent and numerous Body of Soldiers, is Master of the Imperial City ? That at the least Report of the Change you design to make, they will come and fall upon the *Seraglio*, and knowing themselves guilty of so many Crimes, will endeavour to procure Impunity by yet greater ; so that you are

" are about to hazard your Empire, and perhaps
" your Life, if this Secret should get Air.
" Who can assure us that none of your Minis-
" sters will betray you; each of them have
" his particular Interests to take care of; if
" the Changing of the Seat of the Empire is
" advantageous to some of them, it is disad-
" vantageous to others; they who desire it will
" be faithful to you, but they who fear it may
" perhaps betray you. Alas! My Lord, con-
" tinued she, kissing his Hands, which she
" bath'd with her Tears, what would become of
" me, if these *Barbarians* should dare lay Hands
" on your sacred Person: In the Name of our
" Love, my Lord, desist from your Enterprize,
" and expose not your *Aphendina* to Misfortunes
" she could not behold without dying.

The Empress was so pierced with Grief, as she spoke these Words, that she seem'd as if she actually at that Time saw those Evils which she only fear'd. Her Condition, and the Strength of her Reasoning affected *Osman*; he was even some Time without answering her, wavering within himself between *Aphendina's* Intreaties, and his own Desire of ridding himself of a Body of Soldiers he could no longer endure. But as his greatest Fault was having too much Courage, and believing that alone sufficed to assure him of Success, even in the most difficult Undertakings, his Intrepidity triumph'd over the Fears of the Empress: He was even, in some Measure, ashamed that they had stagger'd him one Moment; and raisng himself above whatever could happen, he endeavoured to encourage her, by promising to take his Measures so justly, that his Design should not be known 'till it was

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put in Execution ; giving her to understand, that his own Safety, his Glory, and the Welfare of the State, absolutely required this Sacrifice.

Aphendina was not ignorant that the Emperor had an Understanding and Prudence much above his Age ; but she knew likewise, that the Greatness of his Courage, which even bordered upon Rashness, blinded him very often as to inevitable Dangers. This prevented her now from easing her Fears, notwithstanding all *Osman's* Efforts to compose her ; and some Days after the holding this Council, she had fresh Cause for her Terrors, through the Interpretation that was given to a Dream, which made some little Impression upon the Emperor himself.

This Prince dream'd that he was travelling to *Mecca*, mounted upon a very large Camel ; and that as he was riding along, in a very fine Road, the Camel had slipt away from under him on a sudden, leaving only the Bridle in his Hands, and that taking a rapid Flight into the Air, he had lost Sight of it among the Clouds. The Start he gave in his Surprize, awaked him from his Sleep ; he even ruminated a considerable Time upon it ; but as he was a good Philosopher, and Superstition had no manner of Power over him, he imagined, that having resolved to pretend a Vow to *Mecca*, as a Cloak for his Departure from *Constantinople*, his Mind, struck with this Thought when waking, had he giving Rise to this odd Dream : For this Reason did not conceal it ; but in the Morning, when *Ussain Effendy*, his Preceptor, came to his Levee, he related it to him, without seeming to lay any great Stress upon it ; but *Ussain Effendy* thought it

it so extraordinary, that he assur'd his Highness it contain'd some great Mystery, and advised him to consult his Uncle *Mustapha*, who being, as he said, in a perpetual Contemplation with the Angels, would certainly interpret it to him, because it must have been revealed to him by God in a Vision.

The Emperor smiled at this Discourse ; but being incited by the Curiosity of having a Specimen of his Uncle's pretended angelical Knowledge, he sent for him, and ordered him to expound his Dream. *Mustapha* no sooner heard it, but he immediately answer'd, without Hesitation : That the Camel he had seen was his Empire, which 'till then had been obedient to him ; but that the Camel having slipt from under him, signify'd he would likewise lose his Authority over the Empire, which would rebel against him, and that even during his Life, another Emperor would be placed upon the Throne.

This Interpretation highly displeas'd the *Sultan*, who imagin'd that *Mustapha* had given it that Turn only to offend him, so much was he prepossess'd with the Opinion that all these Warnings are of no Signification : But the Thing getting Air in the *Seraglio*, and spreading from thence throughout the Imperial City, struck every Heart with Terror and Consternation. The People crowded in Dromes to the Mosques, to pray for the Preservation of the Emperor, and the State ; every one asking what could be the fatal Event that cou'd set any other on the Throne than *Sultan Osman*, a Prince so worthy of reigning by his Virtues, and his Love for his Subjects : But the Soldiery, who were

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not so well affected to him, conscious that they deserved all his Resentment, did not speak in the same Terms; and far from apprehending a Change, they excited each other to prepare for it, and even to favour it, imagining the Thing to be past all Doubt: Vulgar Minds are easily inclined to what they believe inevitable, and 'tis often from this very Opinion alone, that the Things they imagined take Effect.

These Reports, these different Reasonings, and the traitorous Disposition of the Janizaries, were not unknown to the Sultan. He even took Notice thereof in a full *Divan*, treating as Illusions the Presages that were drawn from his Dream, and explaining to them the Cause thereof with his usual Learning and Eloquence, which dispell'd the Terrors of the People. But all this Philosophy could not prevent the Fears of the Empress, who, notwithstanding the Solidity of her Understanding, and the Constancy of her Mind, could not forbear being subject, on this Occasion, to all the Weakness of her Sex: And although she had read much, and knew as well as *Osman*, how little Credit was to be given to these fantastic Notions; the Violence of her Love rendering her Superstitious, in spite of her fine Understanding, she could no longer enjoy any Quiet since the Emperor's Resolution; and it was with the utmost Sorrow she saw him persevere in his Design of putting it in Execution.

In the mean while this Prince, as much taken up as he was, about removing the Seat of the Empire, labour'd no less to compass his Design upon *Italy*. He had ordered great Levies of

of Troops throughout the Empire ; and above all, had charged the *Bassa's* of *Grand Cairo*, *Damascus*, and *Suez*, to raise the most numerous Body of *Arabians* that was possible ; his Design being to supply with them the Place of the *Fanizaries*, whom he was fully resolv'd to exterminate : He often pass'd whole Days at his Palace of *Scutari*, with the *Grand Vizier*, and other Ministers in whom he had the most Confidence ; there he held Cabinet Councils to concert proper Measures, to take from the *Fanizaries* the least shadow of Suspicion ; and in Order to deceive them the more effectually, it was at last resolv'd to give out, that the Emperor had made a Vow to go to *Mecca*, to visit *Makomet's* Tomb.

This Pretence was so much the more plausible, inasmuch as by a Law of their Religion, every *Mussulman* is obliged to take that Pilgrimage onc'. The People, who never dive to the Bottom of any Thing, and who, besides, had such a Love for *Osman*, that they extoll'd his least Actions, approved of his Piety, and unanimously applauded this religious Humiliation; but the Politicians reason'd quite otherwise, and rightly judged that this Journey was the Cloak to some great Mystery.

The artful *Kiosem*, who was watchful of all Events, in order to make them turn to the Advantage of her Sons, no sooner heard of the *Sultan's* pretended Vow, but she was alarm'd thereat more than any one ; and that the more, because 'twas said his Highness would take all his Brothers, and his Uncle *Mustapha* with him, which gave her Room to be apprehensive of

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some sinistre Design against herself and her Sons. She resolved therefore to set all her Instruments at Work to get this Voyage broken off; being governed by this Maxim, that in gaining Time one gains every Thing, and hoping still to find some favourable Opportunity to execute her Designs: And as her Interest made her sharp, she knew so well how to put together what she heard said on one Side and t'other in the Seraglio, with such Things as came directly to her Knowledge, that she no longer doubted but the Motive of the Sultan's Voyage was quite different from what was pretended; and without being able to dive into the real Cause, she was fully satisfied within herself, that it was very remote from Devotion.

Struck with this Thought, she never hesitated on making it pass for a Certainty, that she might render it the Basis of her pernicious Designs: It was a ticklish Step; but her Ambition setting her above all Hazards she might run, she ventur'd to have it given out by her Emissaries amongst the Spahis and Janizaries, that the Sultan's Resentment and Revenge had a much greater Share in this Voyage than Religion: That this Prince not being able to forget their pass'd Revolts, had resolv'd to carry them to the Desarts of Arabia, where he had Troops ready to extirpate them entirely; that 'twas said the Baffa's of *Damascus* and *Grand Cairo* had Orders to raise an Army of *Arabians*, *Syrians* and *Egyptians* for this bloody Execution; and that they who cou'd escape from the Edge of the Sword, would infallibly perish with Hunger and Thirst in those horrid Desarts.

This

This Discourse effectually alarmed the Sol-diery ; however, as it was not attended with any Proof, it did not yet produce the Effects which *Kiosem* expected ; and the Emperor having been informed of these Rumours, and being desirous to know the Authors thereof, caused strict Search to be made after them : But this *Sultaness* always concerted her Measures so well, that not so much as the least Suspicion could fall on her, which rendered all Inquiries to no Purpose. In the mean while *Osman*, impatient to be gone from a City, wherein he was satisfied the Objects of his Hatred were the strongest, omitted nothing that might hasten his Departure, which he fix'd on the first Day of the next Year, One Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-two.

To this End, he had given Orders for the fitting out twelve of his best Galleys, and six large Men of War ; these being all ready, he caused all the Treasures of the *Seraglio*, with the *Casna* or military Treasure, and all the Jewels hoarded together by his Predecessors, to be put on board them ; all the rich Furniture likewise of this stately Palace, even that of the Empress's Apartment, which had been newly fitted up, was carried on board these Vessels ; on Pretence that his Highness intended to make a more magnificent Offering upon *Makomet's* Tomb, that had ever been made by any of the *Turkisb* Emperors.

But as soon as it was known that *Osman* had himself been at the great Mosque, and had taken from thence all the Riches which Devotion had consecrated to the Memory of divers *Sultans*,

without sparing even the Tomb of his Father *Achmet*, or that of his own Son, from whence he had caused to be carried off the rich Quiver, which he had himself placed thereon; and that all was transported on board his Vessels, there was no longer any Doubt of his Designs: The Suspicions were turn'd to Certainty, and the Politicians diving partly into the Truth, gave out publickly, that the *Sultan* was going to abandon them, and leave the Imperial City a Prey to the *Christians*. These Reports, however, could not stop *Osman*, who still pursuing his Enterprize, gave Orders for the Security of *Constantinople*, and the other maritime Places; To which End he commanded twenty large Vessels, and forty Gallies, to be likewise got ready to repress the Pirates.

All these Preparations, together with the above-mentioned Reports, and those which the *Sultaneſs Kiofem* caused to spread about both Night and Day, struck the *Janizaries* at last with Terror; conscious that they had given the *Sultan* just Cause of Offence, they could not resist the Distrust which seized upon their Souls; but far from endeavouring to regain the Emperor's Favour by Submission, an humble Behaviour, and Repentance, they form'd nothing but Projects of Sedition and Disobedience; and the *Spahis* and *Janizaries*, joining then in their Sentiments for the first Time, resolved unanimously to oppose this Voyage, which, according to their Way of Reasoning, would infallibly cause the Subversion of the State.

The *Sultan*, inform'd of this Resolution, was only the more exasperated against them, and protested that

that no Consideration whatever should make him change his Mind. The *Mufly* and Empress, justly alarm'd at all these Troubles, whose Consequences they very much dreaded, represented to him the Danger to which he was going to expose himself, if the Sedition, just upon the point of breaking out, should be carried to an Extremity ; in which Case, neither his own Life, or that of any of his Friends, would be in Safety : The beautious and tender *Aphendina*, to add more Weight to her Intreaties, laying aside all ceremonious Respect and Submission, had Recourse to the Rights of a lawful Union, and employ'd the most passionate Caresses, to make him retract his Design of leaving *Constantinople* ; and embracing him a thousand Times, with all those Graces that were peculiar to herself, she spared no Pains to get the better of his Resolution.

The *Mufly*, sensible that his Daughter's Charms would have more Influence upon this Prince's Heart, than all his Remonstrances, left them together, whilst he went and used his utmost Efforts to appease the Mutineers. To this End he sent amongst them the *Cadileskiers*, the *Imans*, and other Doctors of the Law, who pretending to enter into their Sentiments, endeavour'd to incline them to be easy ; but *Kiosem*'s Emissaries, who had dispers'd themselves amongst the Soldiers, the People, and the Troops belonging to the Fleet, call'd at *Constantinople*, *Levantines*, managed Matters so dexterously, that the Sedition, instead of abating, increas'd every Moment, to that Degree, that the Mutineers being assembled together in the *Hippodrome*, obliged the two *Cadileskiers* to go twice after one another

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to the *Sultan*, in the Name of all the Soldiery, and endeavour to dissuade him from his Resolution.

The first Time, they made use of the most respectful Terms to represent to him ; that this Voyage being generally disapprov'd of, was attended with such dangerous Circumstances, that it was to be fear'd it would draw along with it the Ruin of *Constantinople*, and perhaps that of all the State : But the *Sultan*, exasperated to see with what Obstiny they pretended to oppose his Design, having just before refused the Empress, for whom he would have sacrificed even his Life, interrupted the *Cadileskiers*, by telling them his Voyage was resolved on, and he would teach the Mutineers to revere their Sovereign's Will and Pleasure ; this said, repeated his Orders for getting all Things ready for his Departure on the first of June.

The *Cadileskiers* being return'd, and having given the Revolters an Account of the ill Success of their Commission, they obliged them to return forthwith to the *Seraglio*, and tell the *Sultan*, that if he did not lay aside his Voyage, they would oppose it with all their Forces, and have Recourse both to Fire and Sword to prevent his Departure.

These insolent Menaces were so far from intimidating the *Sultan*, that it only added to his Fury, to see with what Audaciousness these impudent Rebels pretended to prescribe him Laws ; wherefore he answer'd the *Cadileskiers* as one that would be obey'd, and sent them back again, with the most bitter Scoffs and Invectives against

against both them and the *Janizaries*: This being told that audacious Corps, they ran immediately to Arms; and *Kiosem*, attentive to all their Motions, distributing underhand considerable Sums among them, obliged part of the People to join the Soldiers, as well as the *Levantines*, who left their Vessels and united with them.

The whole City of *Constantinople* was in an Alarm; nothing was to be heard but Cries and Lamentations, all honest Men deplored the Calamities they foresaw to be inevitable. The *Mufty*, over-whelm'd with Grief to see the Precipice into which *Osman* was upon the Point of falling, sent word to the Empress in what Condition Things were, conjuring her to redouble her Efforts: But the Emperor, whose invincible Courage made him imagine nothing impossible to the Supreme Authority, when founded upon Justice and Virtue, was not to be moved by *Aphendina's* Intreaties: He answer'd all her Reasons with Love and Goodness, but was not the less stedfast in his Resolutions; being persuaded that he was bound in Honour not to give way to the Torrent; and looking upon it as a piece of Cowardice, unworthy of a great Soul, to give the least Room to think that any tumultuary Rout should have forced him to change.

The *Mufty*, no longer knowing what to do to oblige the *Grand Signior* to lay aside this fatal Voyage, and to appease the Matineers, proposed to them the delivering a *Fetsa*, or Point of Law, which should absolutely prevent the *Sultan's* Departure. The whole Multitude approved of this Design of the *Mufty's*, who flattering himself that

that the Emperor would comprehend his Meaning, and that it would give Time to appease the Rebels, deliver'd the *Fessa* that Instant, which was :

That a Sultan could not undertake a Voyage to Mecca, without exposing his Empire to the greatest of Dangers, and that therefore he violated the Law instead of fulfilling it.

The *Cadileskiers* were again commission'd to carry this to his Highness, who having read it, without shewing the least Alteration in his Countenance, tore it in Pieces, threw the Bits at the *Cadileskiers* Feet, and immediately commanded *Izuf, Aga* of the *Janizaries*, to take his Guards and disperse the Mutineers : This done, he gave the last Orders for his Departure, without making the *Cadileskiers* any other Answer. Hereupon they went back to the Soldiers, and inform'd them in what Disposition they had found the Emperor ; upon hearing which, the Rebels fell into such a Fury, that all the Exhortations of the *Imans* and *Mufsty* could not appease them : In vain did they repeat to them, that they ought to ascribe *Osman's* Voyage and Resolution only to the bad Counsel that was given him ; that he was too prudent not to be persuaded by the Reasons of the Empress and *Mufsty*, who neither of them approved of his Departure ; and that therefore they ought not to attempt any Thing contrary to the Respect they owed his Highness, whose Resolution they knew, when his Pleasure was opposed ; whereas he was easily prevail'd on, when Submission and Obedience was used to overcome him.

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These Words, which would have appeased reasonable Men, did but exasperate these Mutineers, who had long waited a favourable Opportunity to revolt openly; and who, after such a Step, no longer hoped for any Favour or Pardon: The more because the *Sultaness Kiosem*, who lost not a Moment to compass her Ends, had introduced among them so many Persons of different Ranks, to foment the Sedition, that as soon as one Voice was raised to speak in the Sultan's Behalf, the others cry'd out aloud that he was an impious Wretch, and had never own'd *Mahomet* as a *Prophet*; that he had often called him Impostor; that the little Respect he had paid to the *Mufly's Fetfa* was a Proof of his Contempt of Religion; and that his Voyage to *Mecca* was only a Pretence to revenge himself of the *Tanizaries* and *Spabis*, by destroying them all in the Deserts of *Arabia*.

This Discourse, and great Sums of Money distributed by that *Sultan*, making more Impression upon the Hearts of the Revolters, than all the Praises bestowed on *Osman*, soon multiplied them to the Number of fifty thousand Men; who being assured by this Power that their Crimes would not meet with their due Punishment, began by plundering the Palaces of all the *Bassa's* of whom they had any Distrust. The Emperor, exactly inform'd of the Disposition of the People and the Mutineers, call'd a Cabinet Council, consisting of *Dilaver Grand Vizier*, the *Bassa-Cosa*, the *Bostangy Bassa*, the *Kisler Agasy*, the *Selictar-Aga*, and the *Capy-Aga*. To these he open'd himself, and after having acquainted the three latter with the Reasons that had induced
him

him to quit *Constantinople*, and remove the Seat of the Empire elsewhere ; he added, that he had not summon'd them with Intent to change any Thing in his Design, but only to find the Means to pacify or destroy the Revolters, and facilitate his Departure ; he said all this with the same Calmness, and the same Composure of Mind, as if all had been at Quiet in the Imperial City.

The *Kisler-Agasy*, *Selictar-Aga*, and *Capy-Aga*, who had no Notice of this Design before, and whose particular Interest it was to oppose it, heard it not without Terror ; and although these three Officers were esteem'd, and confess'd to be Men of the greatest Wit and Prudence, they consider'd nothing at that Instant but their own Interest, without having any Regard either to the Glory or Satisfaction of their Sovereign. Nevertheless, each of them striving to conceal the Trouble this News had caused in their Hearts, they laid hold of the plausible Pretence of the Welfare of the State, and the Safety of the *Sultan* himself, to oppose this Resolution.

And falling at his Feet, they begg'd him not to undertake this Voyage, and change the Seat of the Empire, which his Ancestors had so prudently established there ; adding that he might find other Ways enough to revenge himself of the Insolence of the Soldiery ; but that in executing this Design he would expose his Empire, and perhaps even his Life it self ; that those who had given him this Advice were worthy of a thousand Deaths ; that they conjured him to name them, and give them a Commission to punish them as Enemies both to his Highness and the

the State ; and that when they were once dead, he would see all the Rebels return to their Duty in a Moment.

These Words made the *Sultan* redden with Anger ; incensed to the last Degree, that they could think him capable of appeasing the Sedition, by delivering up those with whom he had advised ; he was even ready to have answered them sharply ; but flattering himself that the Zeal alone of these three Ministers had made them speak in that Manner, he put some Constraint upon himself, and gave them to understand with the same Goodness as he had begun ;

“ That he had known too many Examples of
“ the Insolence of the *Janazaries* to give them
“ any such Satisfaction ; that no sooner had any
“ one had the Weakness to grant them one
“ Head, but they had demanded another ; that
“ Blood inur’d them to Blood ; that the more
“ they shed, the more they thirsted after it ;
“ that he should no sooner have pardon’d
“ them this Sedition, but they would set on
“ Foot another ; and that he was not of a Hu-
“ mour to bear with their Audaciousness, or to
“ supply them with Victims.

“ He added, that the only Thing which had
“ prevented his resolving long before to have
“ quitted *Constantinople*, was, the Love his Peo-
“ ple bore him ; but that, notwithstanding his
“ Absence, he would give such Orders, that
“ they should not be less happy, nor have the less
“ Love and Value for him ; protesting that he
“ should never have thought of removing the
“ Seat of the Empire, but for the too great
“ Power of the *Janizaries* in *Constantinople* ; but
“ that

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" that the more formidable they represented that
" insolent Corps, the more he was resolved to
" break them.

The *Grand Vizer*, the *Bostangy-Bassa*, and the *Bassa-Cosa*, who consider'd nothing in this Affair but their Master's Satisfaction, and a very great Ease for all the People, if he could destroy this audacious Body of Soldiers, unanimous approved of his Reasons ; and the *Kisler-Aga*, *Selittar-Aga*, and *Capy-Aga*, having nothing else to urge against them but the Sedition, about which the *Grand Signior* did not seem much to trouble himself, were forced, in spite of themselves, to applaud them likewise : Whereupon, that very Moment, the Emperor commanded a *Catakerif*, or Order, to the *Bassa* of *Grand Cairo*, to be drawn up, which was immediately done in these Terms :

We give thee Advice, that for many Considerations, we have resolved to transfer the Seat of our Empire from this City of Stamboul, where it is in no manner of Safety, to that of Grand Cairo, unto which we are going to transport both our own Treasures and those of our Father : Wherefore we command thee, as soon as ever thou shalt have received this present Order, to set out to meet us and our Sublime Porte both by Sea and Land, with all the Forces of our Kingdom of Egypt.

Given at *Stamboul*,
May 18, in the
Year of the
Hegira, 1032.

An *Ichoglan* of the Presence Chamber, in whom *Osman* reposed great Confidence, was commission'd to carry this Imperial Order, and to embark on board a Galley arm'd for that Purpose, which was ready to set sail ; after this *Osman* broke up the Council, and his other Ministers being withdrawn, the *Selictar-Aga*, *Capy-Aga*, and *Kisler-Agasy* join'd Company, to communicate to each other their Reflections on this Event. As they had all three an equal Interest in preventing its Execution, their Offices and Employments becoming of no Importance, if the *Sultans* did not reside at *Constantinople*, it was not difficult for them to be of the same Mind ; and without having any Regard to what they ow'd *Osman*, who had raised them from nothing, to the considerable Posts they then enjoy'd on account of their great Abilities, and without being shock'd at the Thought of betraying his Confidence, they resolved to hazard every Thing to secure themselves from this Misfortune. But of all the three the *Kisler-Agasy* dreaded most this Turn of Fortune, seeing that by this Change his Office would be entirely laid aside, which already had lost great part of its Advantages by *Osman's* Marriage ; the Chastity and Fidelity of this Prince rendering useless, the most valuable Prerogatives of this Chief of the black Eunuchs ; the Ladies of the *Seraglio* serving now only as Ornaments to the Imperial Majesty, by contributing to make the Court of the Empress more splendid.

Wherefore the *Selictar-Aga*, and *Capy-Aga*, having found him entirely disposed to join with them in their treacherous Designs, concluded that they must give Information of the *Sultan's*

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Sultan's Intention to the Janizaries, Spahis, Cadis, Bostangis, and all the Officers of the Seraglio; but especially to the Sultaness Kiosem, whose Sons *Osman* intended to take with him. The *Kisler-Agasy* was deputed to inform her thereof, the Prerogatives of his Office giving him free Liberty, to enter the Apartments of the Ladies of the Seraglio, at all Hours of the Day: He was also to spread the News all over this Palace; and his two Accomplices took upon themselves, either to tell it, or give Intelligence thereof, to all the Orders of the Empire.

"Till that fatal Moment not a Soul had discovered the Sultan's real Design; the Secret having been kept inviolably, by all to whom he had intrusted it, and with whom he had advised. Most part of the *Divan*, with the Great Officers of the *Porte* were in his Measures, and found them so necessary for the Safety of their Emperors, and so prudently concerted by *Osman*, that their Fidelity had been unshaken; and it is certain, that this great Design would have been successful, had it not been for the Treachery of the *Kisler-Agasy*, the *Selictar-Aga*, and the *Cayp-Aga*.

But the Evidence of these three Traytors, who were known to be some of the Chief of *Osman's* Council, had all the Effect they expected: Both the Officers of the Seraglio, and the Soldiers, who had all an equal Interest in keeping the Seat of the Empire at *Constantinople*, became his irreconcilable Enemies. The People themselves, who, thro' their extreme Love to him, look'd upon this Change as the greatest of Misfortunes, could not hear of it with any Patience; and suffering

suffering themselves to be transported by their Despair, united with the rest to prevent its taking Effect. The *Sultaness Kiosem*, struck with what the *Kisler-Agasy* told her, was so much the more surprized, that in spite of her Cunning, Subtilty, and Policy, she had not been able to foresee such an Event; but looking upon it as a certain Presage of the Death of the Princes her Sons, she animated herself with fresh Courage; and her natural Boldness increasing in Proportion as she imagined she foresaw greater Dangers, she came immediately to a Resolution, and begg'd the *Kisler-Agasy* to get her conducted to the Palace of the *Selictar-Aga*.

The Eunuch in vain represented to her the Difficulties that opposed such a Procedure, and the Risque they should both run therein. This imperious Woman could neither bear his Advice, nor his Remonstrances; but taking the Habit of a *Jewess*, who came every Day to the *Seraglio* to sell Jewels, she disguised herself therewith, and under that Cover went out of the Imperial Palace, attended only by one Eunuch, and got, without any Accident, to the *Selictar's*: There she found several Persons of Distinction who had join'd the Conspirators, most whereof were her Creatures, whom she had gain'd over to her Interest by Dint of Presents.

Overjoy'd at meeting them together, she made them a horrible Description of the Misfortunes of the Empire, and their own in particular, if the Seat of the Empire should be removed; and breaking out into Invectives against the *Sultan*, "She call'd him an impious and sacrilegious
" Tyrant, who trod under Foot both the Reli-
" gious

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" gion, Laws, and Maxims of the State,
" and governing himself only by his Caprice,
" respected nothing but his own Passions ; that
" it was visible he had no other Intention in
" the Design he had form'd, but to put to
" Death the Princes his Brothers, and to exten-
" minate the *Janizaries* ; that they ought to
" believe him capable of all Sorts of Crimes ;
" since, without having Regard even to Nature,
" he had taken away the Treasures conse-
" crated at the Tombs of his Father and his
" Son ; that they could expect nothing under
" such a Reign but Losses and Misfortunes ;
" which would infallibly be attended with the
" Downfal of the State, if their heroic Courage
" did not pull down this Monster ; that they
" might establish the Happiness of the Empire
" by setting *Sultan Amurath* upon the Throne ;
" who was almost of an Age to govern by
" himself ; in whom none but Royal Inclina-
" tions could be discovered ; and who, together
" with a graceful Person, and uncommon Wit,
" had all the great Qualities that could be
" desired in an Emperor : She concluded with
" telling them, that they might expect a bound-
" less Acknowledgment both from that Prince
" and her.

Although the *Selictar*, and most Part of the Conspirators, knew very well, that this *Sultaneſi* had her own Reasons for blackening *Oſman*, and were convinced in their Hearts, that never Prince of the *Ottoman* Family, had so many un- common Virtues ; the Interest of their Fortunes, prevailing over the Justice and Fidelity they ow'd him, they unanimously applauded *Kioſem's* Speech. Then they formed the Plan of their Conspiracy, and

and the *Selictar Aga* sent these Rebels, to seize on the several Posts in the Imperial City, after which he bent all his Thoughts on seizing the *Ichoglan*, who was to go with the *Grand Signior's* Order, to the *Bassa* of *Grand Cairo*.

By ill Luck the Galley, that was to have carry'd him to *Egypt*, had been prevented Sailing by bad Weather; and just as he was ready to go on Board, he was stopt by the Rebels; who having found the original Orders upon him, distributed Copies of it thro'out all the Quarters of *Constanti-nople*. This authentick Proof of the *Sultan's* Design, filled all the City and *Seraglio* with Cries and Lamentations: One would have thought, on seeing the Consternation that reigned every where, that the Empire was upon the Brink of Destruction. And 'twas given out every where, that the *Sultan* was going to abandon the Imperial City to *Giaours* or *Infidels*, which is the Name given by the *Turks* to the *Christians*.

Hereupon, the Sailors, and the Troops belonging to the Fleet, left their Vessels, and joined the Rebels, as did also the common People, more for the Sake of plundering the City, than to prevent *O'man's* Departure: And the *Janizaries*, who no longer hoped for any Pardon, but in pushing Things to Extremity, no longer spared any Thing. The *Aga Ifuf*, had already attacked them thrice at the Head of the Guard, and had been as often repulsed; and at the last Onset they drove him before them, to the very Gates of the *Seraglio*.

The Rebels had chosen for their Commander *Aly-Aga*, a Man of an extraordinary Courage, and

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and of a Resolution that had been try'd on several Occasions ; and when they found they had the Advantage of *Isuf*, they held a tumultuous Council : After this, obliging the *Mufti* to follow them, they marched directly to the *Seraglio*, where with horrible Cries and Exclamations, joined to the most insolent Menaces, they demanded the Heads of those Ministers who had advised the *Sultan* to leave *Constantinople*.

That Prince, who was surrounded with all who had remained faithful to him, being informed of this audacious Demand, swore that he would never abandon any of his Friends to the Caprice of these Mutineers ; vowed that he would immediately set up the sacred Standard, that he might draw together all his loyal Subjects to cut the Rebels in pieces ; but he was advised to defer it yet a while, because it was a Thing not to be done till the last Extremity, hoping that the continual Rains which had held ever since Morning, would at last oblige the Rebels to break up.

But neither the bad Weather, nor all the Remonstrances of the *Mufti*, the *Cadileskiers*, and several *Dervises*, with other *Mahometan* Monks, to whom the *Turks* pay a great Respect, were capable of making them separate ; whereupon the *Sultan* seeing their Obsturacy, sent to them a *Bostangy*, to demand, with what Design they appeared, armed like Madmen, before their Emperor's Palace : But no sooner had he delivered his Message, than the Rebels instead of any Answer, cut him pieces wth their Scymeters.

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At the same Instant, a Detachment of the Rebels marched to the Palaces of the *Grand Vizier*, the *Bassa Cosa*, and the High-Treasurer, where not finding them, they plundered them of all their Riches, and broke in Pieces what they could not carry off. This done, they rejoined the rest of their Troops, and the Outcries and Exclamations began again, with more Violence than ever. All who were about the Emperor shudder'd with Horror, and no longer knew what Counsel to give; the Empress who never stirred from him, shed a Flood of Tears, for Fear of seeing him exposed to the worst of Misfortunes; He alone seemed unconcerned in the midst of so much Trouble, endeavouring to encourage them all by the most heartening Words, and devising within himself some Means to disperse the Tumult. And although at the Bottom of his Soul, he was affected with the most lively Sorrow, at the Condition to which this Event reduced *Apkendina* and his most faithful Ministers, he never discovered the least Weakness or Déjection, hoping all Things from his Courage, and from his Virtue. Nevertheless, as the Uproar and Insolencies redoubled, surprized to see them push their Audaciousness so far, he appeared in Person at a Window, not being able to imagine but his Presence would inspire them with Respect.

But these hardened Wretches, far from giving any Attention to what he said, prevented being heard, by their Outcries and Roarings, loading him with all manner of abuse, till they obliged him to retire. Then it was that this great Prince, exasperated with his unfeathered, gave Way to the Rage he had till then restrained

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strained ; and being governed only by his Courage and Valour, would have fallied out at the Head of all his Houshould, to fall upon the Rebels, with Design either to punish them severely, or lose his Life in the Attempt. But his Ministers, and the Empress, embracing his Knees, conjured him so earnestly not to expose himself to this unbridled Multitude ; representing to him that he would thereby endanger all their Lives ; having but a Handful of Men to make Head against such Numbers of disciplined Troops, imboldened, enraged, and ready to massacre every one ; that at last he suffered himself to be overcome by their Prayers.

The Empress taking Advantage of this Moment which seemed so favourable to her, and and being seconded by the *Grand Vizier*, the *Bassa Cosa*, and the High-Treasurer, prevailed so far on him by her Reasons, her Tenderness, and her Remonstrances, that she got him to write a Note with his own Hand, wherein he assured them that his Voyage was laid aside, and he would always reside with them. This Note was immediately sent to the Rebels, by a *Capigi*, or Door-Keeper, and was forthwith read aloud to them all, and thousands of Copies of it distributed all over the City.

The People and the Great Men, who only dreaded the *Sultan's* Departure, by Reason of their extream Love for him, were instantly appeased upon the Reading of this Note ; and reaffirming their Affection for his Person, returned to their Duty, blamed the Violence of the *Janizaries*, and were afflicted to the last Degree, that they were not strong enough to force them to lay down their

their Arms ; but the Soldiers persevering in their Rebellion, breathed nothing but Blood and Slaughter : *Kiosem's* Creatures giving out, " That this Promise was only designed to lull them asleep, in order to divide them, and that they would be no sooner separated, but the *Sultan* would depart. That all his Treasures were put on board the Vessels ; that he did not offer to send for them back to the *Seraglio* ; that before they talked of Peace, it was necessary to have all Things restored to their former State, and that the *Sultan* should grant them the Heads of all those who had advised him to abandon them, naming the *Grand Vizier*, the High-Treasurer, and the *Bassa Cosa* : But *Osman* protested that he would never deliver up his most faithful Servants, to the Cruelty of those Barbarians.

At last, the Night and bad Weather, having separated the Rebels, the *Sultan* taking Advantage of their Absence, had some faithful Troops conveyed into the *Seraglio*, with Arms and Provision, besides which he drew up in the Vast Gardens of that Palace, the *Ischoglans*, *Amasoglans*, *Bostangis*, *Baltagi's*, and in general, all who were destin'd to the Service of the *Seraglio*, and were fit to bear Arms ; and after exhorting them by a short Speech, to do their Duty against the Mutineers, and taking of them an Oath of Fidelity, he imagined himself in a Condition to repel the Insults of these abandoned Wretches.

But, alas ! a poor Relief, against almost sixty Thousand Soldiers, were a Handful of Men, whose Youth, Want of Experience, and small Numbers, rendered them as little to be feared,

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as the others were by their Multitudes, and their Cruelty to be dreaded. The very next Morning, May 19. 1622. as soon as Day appeared, the Rebels met again in yet greater Numbers and with the same Outcries, and Exclamations, demanded the Heads of the abovementioned Ministers. Whereupon *Dilaver*, who by a long Experience knew, that 'twas impossible to oppose this Corps when in a Fury, with such few Forces, threw himself at *Osman's* Feet, and begged him not to hazard his sacred Person for his Preservation; adding, that he should think himself too happy if he could be a Victim sufficient to appease the Rebellion, and that he conjured his Highness to give the Rebels some Satisfaction, by taking from him the Seals of the Empire: He said farther, that he thought it as much Glory to resign them to him on so urgent an Occasion, as he had to receive them, when he did him first the Honour to confer them upon him; and that there was no Doubt, but this Action would appease the Rebels.

Osman, on whom nothing made a greater Impression than noble Sentiments, touched to the Quick by those of *Dilaver*, which proved beyond Question, his inviolable Zeal for his Service, and who besides loved and esteemed him for his Prudence, his Courage, and the Services he had done him, at first resolutely opposed the divesting him of a Dignity, which he now deserved more than ever for his Disinterestedness; and there arose between the Emperor and Minister such a noble and moving Contest, that all who were Witnesses thereof, could not forbear admiring the Greatness of Soul of both the one, and the other. But *Aphendina*, who was present at this glorious Dispute, hoping

hoping that the Rebels would be satisfied with seeing *Dilaver* discarded, pressed *Osman* so earnestly, to accept of that Minister's resigning, that he, at last, consented to it, although with a sensible Regret. He took therefore from him the Seals of the Empire, and gave them to *Ussain Bassa*, whom he imagined to be agreeable to the Rebels.

In Effect, this new *Grand Vizier*, invested with all the Marks of his Dignity, ventur'd out of the *Seraglio* to the Revolters, and spoke to them with all imaginable Mildness; caressing them, and assuring them, they had nothing to fear from the *Sultan's* Resentment: He then call'd together their Leaders, and persuaded them to come to his Palace, and treat of a fair Agreement, that should be to the Satisfaction of the Soldiers. The *Sultaneſſ Kiosem*, being informed by her Spies of all that pass'd, and hearing that the Chiefs of the Rebels were at the Palace of the new *Vizier*, to whose Wit and Address she was no Stranger, alarmed at seeing him succeed in his Enterprize, not doubting but he would appease the Sedition, hesitated not a Moment on putting the finishing Hand to her horrid Undertaking. Wherefore she immediately sent a considerable Sum to the Rebels, who were at the *Seraglio* Gates, and exhorted them to terminate this great Affair, having but one Step farther to take; assuring them that in deposing *Osman*, they would restore Peace to the Empire; and that they ought not to suffer themselves to be blinded by *Osman's* fair Promises, his Intention being still to extirpate them. Although Gold has an almost absolute Power over the *Turks*, that of the *Sultana* had less Effect upon the Rebels, than the Fear of being punished as they deserved: Wherefore without waiting the Result of what should be agreed

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on at the *Grand Vizier Ussain's*, they assaulted the Gates of the *Seraglio* about Ten in the Morning, and encouraging each other, broke through and forced all the Passages and Barricades that had been made within this Palace, meeting with but a faint Resistance from those that guarded them; those raw, unexperienced Youths, trembling at the very Looks of the furious *Janizaries*. Accordingly nothing stood before them, but all fled precipitately at the very Glittering of their Scymeters; and the *Janizaries* not troubling themselves with pursuing them, dispersed themselves without any Respect all over the most secret Apartments of the *Seraglio*. The Noise, the Outcries, and the Tumults, giving the *Sultan* to judge how Affairs went, he would have gone out to have reanimated his affrighted People, and at least to have died Sword in Hand. But the Empress, and all that were about him, prevented this rash Design, and forced him to retire into the Apartments of that Princess; a Sanctuary so much the more Safe, as it was sacred and inviolable, even to the most desperate; no one daring to transgress the Law, which forbids any Man the Entrance into the Apartments of the Ladies in the *Seraglio*.

In the mean while, the *Janizaries* having pierced into the most remotest Parts of the Palace, and having found *Dilaver* and the *Kisler Agasy*, massacred them one after another; and after cutting off their Heads and quartering their Bodies, fixed them upon long Poles, and sent them to their Comrades, who carried them through all the Streets of the City, crying out; *Those were the Limbs of the Traitors, who would have delivered up Constantinople to the Infidels.* But if the Death of

of the wise *Dilaver* caused Compassion, that Minister not having deserved so cruel a Destiny, how ought one to admire the Decrees of Providence, which ordained that the Fury of the *Janizaries*, at the same time that they sacrificed the Innocent, should likewise fall upon the Guilty *Kifler Agasy*, who had betrayed his Master for them, and that he should be one of thir first Victims: Divine Justice having blinded them so far, that they confounded him that had served them, with him that was the Object of their Hatred, that the Blood of the Traitor might serve as a Sacrifice for the Blood of the Guiltless.

In the mean while, the Rebels having lost all manner of Consideration, searched the *Seraglio*, but without attempting any Thing against the Empress's Apartments; and some of these Traitors, more inveterate than the rest, having asked where was *Mustapha*, an *Ichoglan*, or Page of the Prefence, who had joined them, led t' em to the Place where he lay confined: It was a Tower covered with a Dome, whose Doors opened only into the Apartment of the Ladies of the *Seraglio*, where Men have no Admittance. But the audacious *Janizaries* removed this Difficulty, being fully resolved to re-establish, *Sultan-Mustapha* on the Throne; for they found Means to climb up to the Top of the Tower, which received no Light, but by a small Oval Window, and taking off the Top of the Doom, three young *Janizaries*, having furnished themselves with good strong Cords, slid down thereby, and prostrated themselves before *Mustapha*, assuring him, that the Soldiers restored him to Liberty, and would set him again upon the Throne.

This Prince, who was in a deplorable Condition, hardly heard one Word they said. He had neither eat nor drank for three Days that the Sedition had been at the Height; those who were appointed to attend him having left him; whether Fear had made them run away, or they had been corrupted by the *Sultaness Kiosem*, as some have thought, and so had designed to let him die in that Manner. He held the *Alcoran* in his Hand, but was so weak, that he could not utter one single Word; the Noise and Clamour where-with he had heard the Palace ring, persuading him that they were only come to take him out of the Tower, to conduct him to his Death, he had prepared himself for it with Resignation; and he was so much prepossessed with this Opinion, that he neither saw nor understood any Thing which the *Janizaries* said or did: They immediately fastened Cords about him, and drew him up out of his Prison; but when he was at Liberty, not being able to support himself, he lay along upon the Ground; the *Janizaries* raised him up in their Arms, and he fainted away; but they brought him to himself, by giving him a little Cordial.

As he was fully possessed in Mind, that they intended to put him to Death, he imagined it was Poison, and refused some Sherbet, which they brought to refresh him; and would neither be persuaded to drink any Thing but a Glass of clear Water, telling those that supported him, they ought to be satisfyed with having deprived him of the Empire, without attempting to take away his Life, since he was then only a poor *Dervis*. The *Janizaries*, to put this Notion out of his Head, protested to him the contrary a thousand Times, and

and prostrated themselves before him, calling him their Emperor and Master, but yet could not make him change his Opinion: At last, they put him in a Bed, and in that Manner removed him to the old Seraglio; some crying, *Bekold Mustapha our Sultan*; and others adding, *May he live for ever.*

All these Cries and Acclamations inform'd *Osman* but too well of what pass'd: 'Twould be impossible to describe the Affliction of that unfortunate Prince, and how infinitely he was grieved on seeing the Abyss of Misfortunes, into which his Design, although just, had plung'd all his Friends; but above all, to what an Extremity he had reduced the almost only Person he loved, and who was still faithful to him. The prudent *Aphendina* finding it was no longer proper to let him see her Tears, which did but redouble his Affliction, refrain'd them as much as possible that she might endeavour to comfort him, and assist him in finding out some Remedy to so many Evils. 'Tis true, she did not meet with so much Difficulty herein, as would have been requisite with a Prince of a less generous Courage; but *Osman*, as great in his Fall as he had been in his Prosperity, was sensibly affected therewith, but without being dejected: His Grief was not even for what related to himself personally, the Death of the *Grand Vizier*, whom he highly valued, and the Treachery of those whom he had honour'd with his Confidence, with the melancholly Condition to which the Empress was reduced, caused alone all his Sorrows. Nevertheless, being inform'd that the Rebels had carried *Mustapha* to the old Seraglio, where they had left a Guard with Officers to

attend him, he hesitated not a Moment upon what Resolution he should take ; but drawing together, with the greatest Expedition, all those who had continued faithful to him, he determined to go in the middle of the Night, and attack *Mustapha* in that Palace ; being persuaded that his Death would put an End to the Rebellion : And he had taken his Measures so justly for that Purpose, that he must infallibly have succeeded, had it not been written in the Book of Fate, that this Prince was always to be betray'd, by those who approach'd nearest his Person.

In Effect, an Eunuch, whom he had always distinguished from the rest, without any Respect or Gratitude to so good a Master, ran and inform'd the *Tanizaries* of his Design. This alarm'd them all, and obliged them to flock in Crowds to the old *Seraglio*, and carry him to their Camp, being a close Place in the midst of *Constantinople*, surrounded with Houses possess'd only by themselves : There they secured *Mustapha*, in the same manner as the *Sultans* are guarded when they are at War. Then this Prince beginning to be convinced that he was going to be re-established on the Throne, was so excessively overjoy'd thereat, that he again fainted away ; and this second Fit brought him to the Brink of the Grave ; violent Convulsions having made him be twice taken for dead : However, he came again to himself, but so weak, that they were obliged to put him to Bed, he being neither able to stand, nor to sit upright.

The *Sultaness Kiosem*, finding herself banlked of her Expectations by this Event, which had never

never enter'd her Thoughts, and judging that she should be exposed to the Resentment of *Philatra*, *Mustapha's Mother*, began at the first to repent her having push'd the Revolt so far; since, notwithstanding all her caballing, and her excessive Expences, it proved of no Benefit to her: But as she knew how to make her own Advantage of every Thing, she was easily comforted, not doubting *Mustapha's Reign* would be but of short Duration; and her Son would still ascend the Throne, much sooner than she had Reason to have hoped, if *Osman* had not been deposed.

In the mean while the Emperor, finding himself abandon'd and betray'd by all the World, the *Seraglio* being become like a Desart, his Domesticks themselves avoiding his Presence, no longer question'd but his Misfortune was irretrievable; but not being willing the Empress should be Witness, of what farther Disasters might befall him, he took a Resolution, which could only proceed from the most intrepid Courage, and the most exalted Virtue.

Having well weigh'd it within himself, and confirm'd himself therein: " My dearest *Aphen-dina*, said he to the Empress, I believe you may easily judge of my Despair, at the Condition to which I have reduced you; nevertheless, I flatter myself that you don't accuse me of being the Cause thereof; that you do Justice to my Intentions, and that you are convinced I have only ruin'd you and myself, by having repos'd Confidence in Wretches who have been ungrateful. 'Tis a great Comfort to me in the Extremity I am in, that I have nothing to reproach my self

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" self with ; let it be also one to you, whatever
" may befall me : But you must needs think it
" will be unworthy of me to wait patiently, 'till a
" Company of Villains come and butcher me
" before your Face ; without my making the least
" Attempt to punish them, or to re-ascend a
" Throne, whose Majesty has not been fully'd
" by any one of my Actions.

" Do not then oppose my Design of leaving
" the Seraglio, either to find some Means to
" destroy those who have so grievously injured
" me, or to die gloriously. Farewel, my dear
" Aphendina, continued he, embracing her, you
" are here in an inviolable Sanctuary ; I have
" nothing to fear for you ; all the Laws se-
" cure you from the Rage of the Rebels ; other-
" wise I would expose my Life a thousand Times
" rather than abandon you : And be assured,
" that whatever is the Fate of the unfortunate
" Osman, he will only live for his Aphendina, or
" will die adoring her to the last Moment of
" his Life.

*The End of the First Part of the Second
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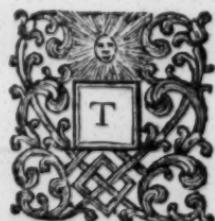


THE
HISTORY
O F
O S M A N I.
The NINETEENTH
Emperor of the *Turks*,

And of the EMPRESS

Aphendina Ashada.

PART IV.



HE gloomy Horrors of the Night,
and the melancholy Silence that
reign'd over that vast Palace,
adding to the Sultan's Words all
that Terror can inspire most
dreadful to the Imagination, the
Empress was seized therewith,
and catching *Osman* in her Arms ; “No, my
“Lord, said she, you shall not leave the *Sera-*

glio

“ glo, unless you will suffer me to follow you;
“ Death doth not affright me more than your
“ self; I resolve to share your Fate; and neither
“ know, or will have, any other Sanctuary but
“ what shall be yours likewise: In the Name of
“ our Love, that Love which has been so ten-
“ der, so perfect, and so faithful, suffer, my
“ dearest Prince, suffer your *Aphendina* to ac-
“ company you to your Grave.

At these Words, this amiable Prince, who had till then supported his Misfortunes with a heroick Constancy, found he was not entirely exempt from human Weakness: His Heart overflow'd with Tenderness, and all the Horror of his Condition appeared before his Eyes: He represented to himself his past Greatness, with the Happiness he had enjoy'd, and whereof he was upon the Point of being immediately deprived; these shocking Thoughts made him fetch several deep Sighs, and forced Tears from his Eyes, wherewith he water'd the Face of that beloved Wife, who kept him fast lock'd within her Arms; as believing that tender Chain would secure them from all Dangers.

But, at last, the *Sultan* seeing that the Moments were precious, prevailed so far by his Reasons, and by a thousand Assurances that he would not expose himself rashly, that she was forced to let him depart. His Intent was to have pass'd over to *Scutary*, fully assured that his Friends would come thither and join him, and to have drawn together a considerable Body of Troops, at the Head of whom he might be in a Condition to withstand the Rebels.

Accordingly, he went to the Sea-side, attended only by *Hussain Bassa*, who would not abandon him ; but finding there was never a *Bostangy* to carry him over, his Soul was seiz'd with a most lively Affliction : He returned to the *Seraglio*, and resolving to run all Hazards to re-ascend the Throne, put in Execution the Design he formed at first. He disguised himself like a *Spahi*, put on a white Armour for the Back and Breast, with all the rest of their Accoutrements, and before Day broke, went with the faithful *Hussain*, to *Aly Bassa*, Captain of the Rebels. He immediately knew him ; and not being able to withstand the august Majesty of his Sovereign, prostrated himself at his Feet, with his Face to the Earth : The new *Vizier Uffain*, who was with him, did the same.

Hereupon, *Osman* breaking Silence with a disdainful Smile ; What ! says he, *Aly* ! Do you now pay me the Respect you owe me as Emperor, when I am deposed, and reduced to the Necessity of concealing myself under the meanest of Disguises ? And did you rise up in Arms against me when I was your absolute Lord and Master ? What Fury has taken Possession of you ? What Injustice have I done you, to induce you to support my Rebellious Subjects ? What Crime have I committed ? I would have withdrawn myself from the Tyranny of Soldiers, who know no Laws but their Caprice and Interest : Was I in the Wrong ? And does not what they have now done justify me in my Design ?

“ Never-

" Nevertheless, passing by the Outrages I
" have received, I have consented to pardon
" them, and continue at *Constantinople*; and notwithstanding my Goodness, they depose me
" of their own Authority, and deprive me
" of a Throne to which both the Right of Birth,
" and the Laws of the Empire have called me;
" and 'tis *Aly*, the brave *Aly*, who puts himself
" at the Head of these Insolents; *Aly*, upon
" whose Valour and Fidelity I should have
" depended on the most dangerous Occasions.
" Well then (pursued he, looking upon him
" Stedfastly) behold him here before you; that
" *Osman*, that *Sultan* whom you abhor, he comes
" to spare you the Pains of dragging him out
" of his own Palace, and delivers himself up
" into your Power: Glut the Hatred of the
" Mutineers; lay your Hands upon his sacred
" Person; strike, *Aly*, if you dare." "Tis im-
possible to express the Effect these Words wrought
on the Heart of *Aly*.

Never had *Osman* appeared, more to be admired, more to be respected, or more awful than at that Instant: A certain Air of Majesty, Sweetness, Intrepidity, and Grief, that was observable in his Countenance, and his Manner of expressing himself, render'd him so worthy of Admiration, that the Rebel was struck therewith; and being sensible of his Crimes, he prostrated himself a second Time, and without offering to rise: "I am unworthy, said he, both
" of the Light of the Sun, and of the least
" Look from your Highness. Strike your self,
" my Lord, pierce the Heart of that Traitor
" *Aly*, which is already stung with the most
" poignant

" poignant Remorse : Or if you scorn to stain
" your august Hands in a Blood so vile, command,
" and pronounce the Sentence of, my Death ;
" unless, by an Effect of your great Clemency,
" you had rather see me expiate my Fault, by
" the Pleasure I shall take in laying down my
" Life, to maintain the Justice of your Cause.

There needed no more to move a Prince, whose Soul entirely heroic, was always to be prevailed on by great Actions. Accordingly *Aly's* Submission affected him in the most sensible Manner ; wherefore, reaching out his Hand to him ; *Rise*, said he, *live to be ever faithful to me, and may your Repentance be as sincere as my Reconciliation.* — *Aly* obey'd, and immediately the Emperor, the *Grand Vizier*, and the two *Bassas* held a Council. As Time was very precious, it was forthwith resolved that the *Vizier* and *Aly* should go to the Camp of the Rebels, and make them very advantageous Proposals in the *Sultan's* Name. That great Prince would not be made acquainted with them, for fear, that finding contrary to his Honour, he should be loth to consent to them ; but he assured them he would allow of whatever they should agree to. Whilst they were consulting with themselves what they should propose to the Rebels, Day appeared ; and the *Fainzaries* obliged the *Cadileskiers* to draw up an *Act*, declaring that *Osman* was deposed on three Accounts : Then sending for the Common Cryers to their Camp, they commanded them to publish this *Act* with a loud Voice, which contained as follows :

" That the Soldiers being inform'd of *Osman's* ill Behaviour, had deposed him as unworthy

" worthy of the Throne ; having designed to
" deliver up the Imperial City to the *Giaours*, or
" *Christians*, being a *Giaour* himself, and having
" violated the fundamental Laws of the Empire
" in marrying.

These Cryers were guarded by two thousand *Janizaries*, with their Musquets poised, and preceeded by their Drums and Trumpets. Never was Confarnation more universal than that of the People on this Publication ; all were in Tears and Lamentations, neither were the great Men less disconsolate : But the Superiority of the *Janizaries* making them fear they would plunder the whole City, obliged them to conceal their Despair, insomuch that not a Creature durst stir, having nothing but Tears to bestow upon the unfortunate *Osman*.

This done, the Rebels having erected a Throne in the midst of their Camp, they made *Mustapha* ascend it, and acknowledged him publickly as their lawful Emperor : Just at this Interim the *Grand Vizier*, and the *Bassa Aly* arrived at the Camp, where they declared to the Soldiers in *Osman's* Name ; that he abhor'd the Thoughts of the intended Voyage ; that he would deliver up to them those who had advised it to be pu-nished as they should think fit ; and that his Highness engaged to give each *Spahi* and *Janizary* sixty Chequins, and a Vest, as a Proof of the Return of his Favour, besides which, he would augment their Pay two Aspers a Day during their Lives.

But so far were these Testimonies of the *Sultan's* Goodness from making any Impression upon

upon these *Barbarians*, as they were sensible they were unworthy thereof, and had carry'd their Insolence too far to deserve such Kindness, that their Rage and Fury increas'd to such a Decree, that venting it upon *Osman's* Ministers, they loaded them with Abuses, calling them Enemies and Traytors to their Country ; and no longer looking upon *Aly*, whom they had chosen their Captain, but as a Deserter, they fell upon him, and cut him in Pieces with their Scymeters : And the *Grand Vizier* attempting to represent to them their Injustice, and give them an Abhorrence of their Rebellion, all the Answer they gave him was, to strike off his Head ; then judging from the Discourse of the se two unfortunate Officers, that *Osman* was at *Aly's* Palace, they detach'd a Party thitherto the Number of six Thousand.

The Palace was immediately invested, and the Doors broke open ; after which, entring in Doves, they found *Osman* and the *Bassa Huffain* : They rush'd upon them, disarm'd them in spite of their Resistance, and without any Respect for the Name, Presence, or Majesty of their lawful Sovereign, massacred the *Bassa Huffain*. *Osman* finding himself in no Condition to oppose these Villains, restrained his just Indignation, and address'd them with great Mildness ; remonstrating to them, " That he was " the eldest Son of their Emperor *Achmet*, " whom they had so much loved, and conse- " quently the lawful Heir to the Empire, where- " of they could not deprive him, without be- " ing guilty of the utmost Injustice ; " adding to this Remonstrance a Promise of Pardon, and even of great Rewards, if they would repent.

This

This that Prince deliver'd with so much Grace, that they could not avoid giving him the Hearing ; they even look'd upon him some Moments with a sort of Admiratio[n] ; the *Sultan* perceived it, and being willing to take Advantage thereof, began again to promise them several Favours ; when, on a sudden, they broke into a fresh Fury, and would no longer give him the Hearing ; and the Fear of the Punishment they had so highly deserved, coming more than ever into their Thoughts, they gave him the most abusive Language, and call'd him the most odious and injurious Names. Whilst greatest part of them were thus villainously employ'd, six of them ran to inform *Mustapha* that *Osfman* was in their Power, and ask'd if he pleased to have him brought to the Foot of his Throne : *Mustapha* immediately answered, that he would not see him, and that he delivered him up to them, to be disposed of at their Pleasure.

Then these abandon'd Wretches, imagining every Thing permitted them, rush'd upon *Osfman*, and forc'd him to mount a Horse that was hardly able to stand under him : His Turban happening to fall off, they clap'd upon his Head a sorry Leather Cap, and placing him in the midst of them, with horrid Out-cries and Yellings, they led him in that Condition through all the Streets of *Constantinople* ; bearing before him the Heads and Limbs of his most faithful Ministers, and especially the Head of *Dilaver*, which they continually held before his Eyes, carrying their Insolence so far, as even to force him to kiss it.

The People, terrify'd at this horrid Spectacle, retired into their Houses : All the Shops were shut up close ; and every one, not being in a Condition otherwise to testify his Zeal to this unfortunate Monarch, resolved, at least, not to be seen a curious Spectator of his deplorable Fate. Every Body in general was afflicted to the last Degree ; but the Insolence of the Janizaries was grown to such a Height, that not a Soul durst make the least Attempt to oppose their barbarous Inhumanities : One young Turk in particular, being more mov'd than the rest with their shameful and unworthy Treatment, of the most amiable Emperor, that had ever 'till then graced the Ottoman Throne, seeing that his Head was only cover'd with a sorry Leather Cap, went up to him and put on his Turban, crying out at the same Time, OSMAN, OSMAN, have a good Heart, there are Hopes still. Hereupon the Janizaries, exasperated at his Boldness, would have cut him in Pieces, had not the Nimbleness of his Heels saved him from their Fury. This Example made every one keep a most profound Silence about all their Actions : The injured Sultan would several Times have spoken to them, but Kiosem's Emissaries always prevented his being heard.

How dreadful was this State to a young Prince, who, some few Days before, made Millions tremble at his Frown; who had seen himself almost adored by his whole Empire; and whose intrepid Courage had flatter'd him with the Hopes, that the Conquest of all Europe was reserved for him ! But likewise, what Reflections must he not have made upon the Instability of so

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so much Pomp and Grandeur, from which one Moment alone had cruelly precipitated him! It is impossible but *Osman*, who had infinite Wit, and whole Understanding and Genius was vastly superior to all ordinary Capacities, must at that Time have made a very serious Parallel, between his past Glory, and his Condition at that Instant: All his Actions and Words on that fatal Day, give Room to believe, that he reason'd more solidly on this Occasion than on any other, since, without ever shewing the least Weakness, he did not fail to testify a noble Sensibility of the horrid Outrages they forced him to suffer.

When these inhuman Wretches had led him enough about the City, they conducted him to their Camp. Upon his Entrance therein, the Rebels before whom he pass'd, spit and stamp'd with their Feet against the Ground, which amongst those People are so many Marks of Detestation: Then they made him alight, and sit upon a great Stone, after which they surrounded him, calling him an impious Robber, and a *Giaour*, or Infidel, grinding their Teeth at him, and making a hundred Grimaces, and extravagant Postures, like so many Madmen, and holding under his Nose Bundles of burning Matches, half extinguished.

This done, being resolved to make him suffer all the Indignities that Rage and Fury could inflict upon him, they set him up in the Cart appointed to carry Criminals to Execution, and placed by him the *Surbachi*, or Hangman. Then it was that this great Prince was fully sensible of all the Horrors of his Destiny, and being no longer

longer able to keep Silence, cry'd out with a strong, but moving Voice;

Generous Musselman, take away my Life, but let me at least receive my Death from the Hands of so many brave Soldiers, and not from those of an infamous Executioner.

But these hardened Villains were so far from being moved therewith, that they took not the least Notice thereof; on the contrary, they again led him, in this Condition, all over the City. This infamous and unheard of Inhumanity crown'd the Despair of the Great Men, and the People of the best Rank; but nevertheless their Grief, Lamentations, and Complaints were of no Effect. In passing by a Place where there are two running Springs, *Osman* said he was thirsty, and the Janizaries had Complaisance enough to bring him some Water; but afterwards they went on with their usual Out-cries and Yellings, 'till they came to the Seven Towers, where they committed him to Prison.

This done, these *Barbarians* call'd a Council, to advise whether it was not their Interest to put him to Death: *Kiosem's Partizans* were for compleating their Crime, by taking away his Life; alledging, that if by any Turn of Fortune he should re-ascend the Throne, he would sacrifice them all to his Revenge; but the *Imans*, who were amongst them, prevented this Council's taking Place, on account of this Principle in the Law of *Mahomet*:

That the Life of the Prince is sacred, and no Body must dare make the least Attempt against it.

The

The rest of the Rebels siding with the *Imans*, it was resolved to let the unfortunate *Osmian* live; who being delivered from the Hands of these *Barbarians*, found a sort of Consolation in his Prison, as being much the least dreadful of the two: But in this melancholy Confinement, whose Stillness added to the Troubles of his Soul, the Image of *Aphendina*, which had been banish'd his Thoughts during the exquisite Trials they had forced him to undergo, recurr'd to his Imagination with double Vigour: The deplorable State, to which he rightly judg'd, the Account of what he had suffer'd would reduce her, affected him with such a lively Sorrow, that he was ready, just at that Moment, to lose a Life, which his Courage alone had enabled him to support, notwithstanding the Horror of his Condition.

But at last, the same Courage enabling him to find a Source of Comfort in his own Virtue, he flatter'd himself with Hopes that Time would produce some Incident which might turn to his Advantage.

In the mean while the Rebels, satisfy'd with their Crimes, went to *Mustapha*, and gave him an Account of their Cruelties; upon which that Prince taking Possession of the Empire, for the first Act of his Sovereignty, caus'd all the Gaols in *Constantinople* and *Peru* to be thrown open, and all the Prisoners therein to be set at Liberty: He also had his Mother fetch'd out of the old *Seraglio*, and gave the Seals of the Empire to *Dant Bassa*, who had marry'd his eldest Sister, a bold, cruel, and blood-thirsty Man, and

Emperor of the TURKS. 97

and one who would sacrifice every Thing to his boundless Ambition. The *Sultaneſſe Kioſem*, whom the Accession of *Mustapha* to the Throne had very much ſurprized, was willing that it ſhould at leaſt prevent her having another Competitor, who might diſpute the Empire with her Son *Amurath*: wherefore ſhe bent all her Thoughts on getting *Osman* diſpatched, fearing ſome Turn might happen in his Favour; not being ignorant of the Love all the Great Men, and People of the best Rank had for this amiable Prince. As ſhe was no Stranger therefore to *Daut's* Temper, ſhe cauſed it to be repreſented to him by the *Baſſa of Boſnia*, who was entirely devoted to her, that it would be but Prudence in him to put *Osman* to Death, ſince there was no depending upon the Soldiers, who would change every Moment for their Interêt; that this alone had made them depoſe that *Sultan*; and that it was to be fear'd, when once their Fury was grown cool, they might repenit, and for the ſame Interêt might one Day re-eftablifh him upon the Throne; which if it ſhould ever happen, *Osman* would not fail to ſacrifice to his Revenge, all whom he ſhould find attach'd to *Mustapha*.

It was not in the least necessary, to have Recourse to such strong Reasons, to persuade the *Grand Vizier*, who was naturally inclin'd to commit the worst of Crimes, to perpetrate this. He had already proposed to himself this horrible Sacrifice, and if he did not immediately imbrue his Hands in the Blood of that Prince, it was because he was willing first to dive into the real Sentiments of the Soldiery; to this End, he caused it to be reported in the Camp of the Janizaries, that *Osman* had just then been

strangled. At this Rumour almost all of them ran to their Arms, and marched in all haste to the Castle of the Seven Towers, crying, What is become of *Osman*? What has been done with *Osman*? That unfortunate Prince hearing them, and flattering himself with the Hopes of some Turn in his Favour, went to his Window, spoke to them with abundance of Sweetness, and with his usual Eloquence, said several obliging Things, but all in vain.

They hearken'd to him some Moments, look'd upon him stedfastly, and satisfy'd with having seen him, return'd back again to their Camp, without answering him a single Word. Was ever any Thing comparable to the Caprice of these Mutineers! They had depos'd him, and treated him with the worst of Indignities, even worse than Death, and yet would not suffer any Attempt to be made against his Life.

But whilst *Daut* and *Kiosem* were thus endeavouring to dispose of a Life, which they ought to have held sacred, the disconsolate *Aphendina* pass'd hers in the most cruel Sorrow. Whatever Care had been taken by those who approach'd her, to soften in the relation them of to her, the inhuman Barbarities of the *Janizaries*, they told her enough to pierce her Heart with a thousand mortal Wounds: She swooned away divers Times in the Arms of her Women and the *Sultana's* who were attending about her; and when by their Care she was come again to her self, she never opened her Eyes, but to shed a Torrent of Tears; or her Mouth, but to utter such Complaints as would have mov'd the most savage Breast.

As she had Examples enough in the past Revolutions, not to flatter herself with any Hopes in this, she did not in the least doubt but sooner or later *Osman* would be put to Death: She spoke not a Word but what plainly shew'd she no longer reckon'd him in the Number of the Living. In vain did they strive to comfort her; all the Reasons they used to effect it, did but redouble her Despair. She was in this melancholy and disconsolate Condition, when a young Slave falling on her Knees before her, delivered her a Letter from the *Mufty*, which he had found the Means to get convey'd to her Hands, and which contain'd only as follows:

TO THE EMPRESS,

I Doubt not in the least of your Despair, all is lost; but in the midst of your Complaints call your Virtue to your Assistance: Live to revenge what we have lost; this is what is required of you both by the Laws, your Love, Gratitude, and your Father,

A SHAD.

Aphendina having read this, was for some Moments in a deep Study, after which, breaking Silence all on a sudden; "Yes, said she, I will live, since my Life is necessary for the Glory of my dear *Osman*. Adorable Prince, continued she, letting fall a Shower of Tears, "I offer you a greater Sacrifice in consenting to live, than I should do in following you to the Grave; since every Day of my Life will infallibly be accompany'd with the most exquisite Sufferings.

In Effect, this beauteous Princess, to whom the new Emperor sent Word that she should be serv'd and respected equally as before, would not hold the least Correspondence with any of those who approach'd *Mustapha*; but shutting herself up in her own Apartments, which might have paiz'd of themselves for a separate Palace within the Seraglio, she lived there in an austere Retirement, and in continual Tears; wholly employ'd, Night and Day, in endeavouring to take a memorable Revenge of all the Enemies of her Imperial Consort.

In the mean while the *Grand Vizier Daut*, whose exorbitant Ambition could find no greater Pleasure than in satisfying itself; and who thought his Fortune not to be shaken, if he could once compass the Death of *Osman*; observing the Alarm the Janizaries had taken at the Report he had caused to be spread, and judging they might one Day repent, and re-establish him on the Throne, would no longer defer the ridding himself of this only Object of his Fears. Wherefore, going to *Mustapha*, he gave him to understand, that both his Safety, the Welfare of his State, and the securing him in the Possession of the Empire, depended on the putting his Nephew to Death; that the Soldiers had only preserved him alive, with a View of making Use of that Prince against him on the least Occasion; wherefore he demanded of him an Order for his Execution.

Mustapha, who happened to be then in one of his Intervals of Reason, hesitated a long while upon the giving it; remembering that his Brother had

had recommended to him the Care of his Children, especially *Osman*, and that the Throne belong'd of right to them : Wherefore he answer'd *Daut*, that such a piece of Barbarity would render him guilty both of Perjury and Parricide, and that both God and the Prophet *Mahomet* would undoubtedly punish him for it.

The *Grand Vizier*, on whom the Fear of Heaven made not the least Impression when his own Interest was in Question, had foreseen *Mustapha's* Timorousness, and had therefore gain'd over some Doctors of the Law, by Dint of Money, whom he introduced to that Prince, and who, under Pretence of the Welfare of the State, removed all his Scruples, and obliged him to sign the fatal Order, which he delivered to the *Grand Vizier*. This Monster of Barbarity being once in Possession thereof, hastened forthwith to the Castle of the Seven Towers, accompany'd by the *Gebecky Bacy*, or Chief of the Armourers, and several Mutes with silken Bow-strings ; and causing the Doors of the unfortunate *Osman's* Prison to be open'd, he accosted him with telling him *Mustapha's* Order, adding, that it was with the utmost Regret he executed it.

The unhappy *Sultan* seem'd a little surpriz'd at this News, and looking stedfastly on the *Vizier*, *What !* said he, *the Sentence of my Death ! Of what am I guilty ? Are they not satisfy'd with that of all my most faithful Servants ?*

But the cruel *Vizier*, not a jot moved, return'd him only this short Answer ; *You must dye :* Whereupon *Osman*, without discovering the least Weakness, desired mildly that he might have

Time to recommend his Soul to God, which the *Vizier* granted him ; but as a Favour. This Prince immediately fell on his Knees, and offer'd up his Prayers with abundance of Zeal and Fer-vency ; but at the same Moment seeing the Mutes enter, he rose up with Fury, and looking upon the *Vizier's* Attendants : *What !* said he, *is there none of you will give me a Poignard to dye gloriously, and not by the Hands of these vile Executioners ?* As he utter'd these Words, he cast his Eyes on those who were nearest him, with Design to have seized on one of their Scymeters : But *Daut*, who was apprehensive of his Valour, made a Sign to the Mutes to advance. Hereupon the courageous *Osman*, resolving at least to sell his Life dear, advanced to meet them, and with one Blow of his Fist broke the Check-bone of the first, and disabled him from any farther Attempt ; then seizing the second with a vigorous Arm, he sent him with such Violence against the Wall that he split his Skull : He then took another by the Throat, threw him to the Ground, and trod him under Foot ; after which, with a Courage and Force to which Despair added fresh Strength, he scattered the rest, and avoided with the greatest Dexterity the Silken Halter which they endeavour'd to pass about his Neck.

At last, however, one of these harden'd Wretches watched his Opportunity so well, that he threw it over him behind, and drawing it with all his Strength, brought him to the Ground. Then all the Mutes joining together, rushed upon him with Precipitation ; notwithstanding which, the Youth, Courage, and Dexterity of the *Sultan*, gave them still a good deal of Trouble. This Prince having got one of his Hands between

between his Neck and the Halter, held it with so much Force, that he prevented its having any Effect ; whereupon, one of those Villains, more barbarous than the rest, having got an Ax, gave a Blow therewith upon the Shoulder, and another upon the hind part of the Neck, which disabled him from making any farther Defence ; and the wretched *Osman*, stunn'd with their Blows, having ceas'd to struggle, they immediately strangled him. Not content therewith, however, the barbarous *Vizier* order'd the Chief of the Armourers to cut off one of his Ears, which he carried to *Mustapha*, that he might be assur'd of his Death.

But *Mustapha* was willing to be satisfy'd thereof with his own Eyes, and to that End caused his Body to be brought to the *Seraglio*, where, in spite of his Devotion, and the Oaths he had made to his Brother *Achmet*, he enjoy'd to the full, the inhuman Pleasure of having rid'd himself of so dangerous a Competitor : This he evidently discover'd by uttering these cruel Words ; *He once tumbled me from the Throne, and now I have precipitated him into the Abyss of Darkness.*

Such was the End of this amiable Prince, who dy'd at the Age of eighteen Years, having reign'd but three ; and who, in that short Time, never thought, projected, said or did any Thing but what was great, wise, and heroic : He was endued with all the personal Accomplishments that can render the Out-side agreeable ; beautiful to Perfection, exquisitely fine shaped, Master of the utmost Address in all his Exercises, and of the greatest Eloquence and Gracefulness in

Speaking : His Inside was not less admirably adorn'd ; his Soul was of the noblest, his Sentiments most exalted ; he was a Lover of Virtue, required it in Friends, and practis'd it himself ; he was prudent, tender, sincere, and the profess'd Enemy of all Sorts of Debauchery ; he was full of Bravery and Courage, and never form'd any but great Enterprizes : To conclude all, he was well skill'd in all Sciences, and was not only Master of a sparkling Wit, but of a profound and solid Understanding. Such was *Osmān I.* the nineteenth Emperor of the *Turks*, who sacrificed him unworthily to their Rage, and who did not know the Enormity of their Crime, 'till long after they had committed it, no more than the Greatness of their Loss in being deprived of so excellent a Prince.

He was universally mourn'd and lamented by the great Men, and the People of the best Rank, and although the Inhabitants of *Constantinople* durst not discover their Despair for Fear of the Soldiers, the numerous Provinces of this vast Empire were not influenced by the same Policy : The Mourning, Tears, and Lamentations there were undisguised ; and never was Affliction more sincere or more general.

His Body was wash'd and perfum'd, according to the Custom of the *Mahometans*, and afterwards carried to the Great Mosque of St. *Sophia*, where it was placed between his Father *Achmet*, and his own Son ; and although no Body durst honour his Funeral Pomp for Fear of the Mutineers, who, to intimidate the Inhabitants, had dispersed themselves in Companies throughout the City, and threatned with Death the first

Person

Person who should pronounce the Name of *Osman*: Almost all the Ministers and *Bassa's* who were at the *Porte* assisted at his Burial, but without any Ceremony, without observing any Ranks, and with a profound Silence, locking up within their Breasts the Grief that pierced their Souls.

Amongst the *Iman's* appointed to perform his Funeral Rights, he who pull'd off his Cloaths, found about him a magnificent Pocket-Book; As he apprehended it might contain something of Consequence, he conceal'd it with Design to deliver it to the *Mufly*, which he did as soon as this melancholy Ceremony was over. The *Mufly*, who knew it again, because it had belong'd to the Empress, gave it in charge to an Eunuch of the *Seraglio*, devoted to the Service of that Princess, who carried it immediately to a young *Odalisk*, named *Elisana*, in whom *Aphendina* had an entire Confidence, and who was her Favourite.

The *Odalisk* received it, and not doubting but the Sight of it would renew the Sorrows of the Empress, she put it up carefully, resolving to wait 'till that Princess was more composed in Mind before she delivered it. This Favourite rightly foresaw the cruel Effect this Pocket-Book would produce, since the Sequel will sufficiently shew how fatal the Sight of it was to *Aphendina*.

As for *Mustapha*, he gave himself up to all the Joy, that the Return of the Sovereign Authority can inspire; and by the Council of the *Grand Vizier*, caused *Osman's* Brothers to be close confined, fearing that the Rebels would make use

of

of them against him on the first Opportunity. The *Sultaness Kiosem*, whom *Osman's* Death gave just Reason to hope for *Amurath's* Advancement; seeing the Throne possess'd by a Prince that was weak, and incapable of Government, bent all her Thoughts on the Means of raising her Son to the Empire: And in Order to effect this the better, not being ignorant of the Hatred of the *Mufly*, and most of the Great Officers of the *Porte*, to all who had appear'd to have any Hand in *Osman's* Death, by a most artful and ambidextrous Policy, she apply'd herself assiduously to make her Court to the Empress; intermingling Tears with her, and never speaking to her but of the Vengeance she ought to take of the blackest Cruelties that had ever been perpetrated upon the Person of the greatest Prince that had till that Time reigned over the *Mussulmen*. To this she added her particular Fears for the Fate of her own Children, whose Lives were exposed to the Barbarity of the *Grand Vizier Daut*, pretending to lament their Loss in the Death of *Osman*, who had always treated them with the Goodness of a Father.

The mournful *Aphendina*, whose Soul was a Stranger to all Wiles and Subterfuges, and whose Candour and Sincerity was equal to *Kiosem's* Artifices, thinking herself obliged by the Concern she seemed to express for her Misfortunes, gave Ear to her with Pleasure, thanked her, and assured her of her utmost Acknowledgment: And as she had been the Depository of her Imperial Consort's most secret Thoughts, and knew beyond Question that he would never have put his Brothers to Death, but had always loved them sincerely, she enter'd with the same Goodness into

into the *Sultana's* Apprehensions of their falling one Day a Sacrifice.

When *Kiosem* had thus assured herself of *Aphendina's* Confidence, she acquainted her with all she knew of the *Grand Vizier's* Designs, whereof she was exactly inform'd by the *Bassa of Bosnia*. "The sole Design of that Minister, said she to the Empress, is to advance himself to the Throne: As he has married *Sultan Achmet's* eldest Sister, he will become the only Heir, if he can compass the Death of the five Princes, who are all the Remains of the *Ottoman Family*; fully persuaded that after their being taken off, no Body will be able to dispute the Empire with him: And knowing, as I do, his cruel and bloody Mind, I have every Thing to fear for my Sons, of whom, only *Amurath* the eldest, is capable of revenging the august *Osman*, his Brother and your illustrious Confort.

Aphendina, whose lively Sorrow the least Thought of Revenge flatter'd, enter'd immediately into all her Sentiments; and as she knew that *Amurath* was actually Master of part of the fine Qualities that had been so much admired in the Emperor *Osman*, she was as apprehensive as *Kiosem*, of being deprived by his Death of the Hopes she built on him.

Wherefore, after studying a Moment upon what she had just discovered to her, "I know but one Way, answer'd she, to secure the Princes from *Daut's* wicked Attempts; and that is, to procure me an Opportunity, of speaking with the two principal Eunuchs, whom

" my dear *Osman* placed about them: They
" have always been very faithful to that great
" Prince, and undoubtedly they will value his
" Memory sufficiently to hazard every Thing,
" rather than suffer the Lives of his Brothers
" to be attack'd, especially when I shall com-
" mand them to be watchful over their Prefer-
" vation: The only Difficulty that remains, is
" to furnish them with Arms to defend them-
" selves in case of Necessity." The *Sultaness Kiosem*, who found nothing difficult when her own Interest was in Question, overjoy'd at the Proposal made her by the Empress, assured her she would supply the two Eunuchs with Arms sufficient for themselves, and all about the Princes; and that she would take upon herself the Care of introducing them to the Empress, that she might be able to give them her Orders.

All these Measures being taken, *Kiosem*, who had an infinite Number of Emissaries in the *Seraglio*, managed Matters so well that she sent for the two Eunuchs, and brought them secretly to *Aphendina*. That great Princess could not again behold those two faithful Servants of *Osman*, without shedding a Flood of Tears, wherefore with a Voice interrupted with deep Sighs;
" We have sent for you, said she, to preserve the
" Princes you attend, from all the wicked Attempts
" that may be made against them: We are in-
" form'd their Lives are in Danger; and as we
" know how faithfully you were devoted to
" your great Master *Osman*, we flatter ourselves
" you will not be less so to his Brothers;
" especially Prince *Amurath*, whom he dearly
" loved, and who being the eldest, is more
" exposed than the rest, to the Ambition of
" *Traytors.*

"Traytors. The *Sultaneſ ſ Kioſem* will procure
"you Arms to defend him, and we are both
"fully affured, that on your repelling briskly
"the first Attack, they will never dare to make
"a ſecond. Swear then that you will be in-
"violably devoted to their Service, and that
"your profound Submission to the august Ma-
"fter you have lost, will make you reſpect the
"Orders of your Empress.

The two Eunuchs, who ſincerely lamented *Oſman* every Hour of the Day, and whom *Amu- rath's* fine Qualities made look upon him as the only one worthy to ſucceed him, ſwore, without Hefitation, to the Princeſs, by the moſt ſacred Oaths, not only to ſhed the laſt Drop of their Blood in his Defence, but to engage all who ſerved him to do the ſame. The *Sultaneſ ſ Kioſem*, as *Amurath's* Mother, preſented each of them with a Purſe of a thouſand *Sultanins*, in Order to gain them to her Interests, and got conveyd to them what Arms were neceſſary, without any one's having the laſt Intimation thereof.

After this Precaution for the Safety of her Son's Life, being willing likewiſe to acquire the Confidence of all who mourn'd *Oſman's* Loss, and to gain them over to her Interests; rightly judging that this was the only Means to get the People to favour her Son's Advancement; ſhe cauſed the *Mufti* to be told, that ſhe abhorrd all who had any Hand in the depoſing and putting to Death that great Prince, and that ſhe was ready to join with him in the revenging it. She cauſed the ſame to be inſinuated to the *Baffa's*, and Great Officers of the *Port*, and left no ſtone unturn'd

unturn'd to make them believe she acted with no other View than that of Justice.

Although both the *Mufly*, the others, and all the *Divan*, were very sensible that this politick Woman had her own private Views in speaking after this Manner ; and did not doubt but her Artifices had had no small Share in *Osman's* deplorable Catastrophe, they were so much bent upon revenging his Death, that they did not in the least hesitate upon accepting her Offers, knowing very well they would be of great Advantage to them on the first Revolution : Wherefore, dissembling their Thoughts, they caused her to be told, that they should be always ready to testify their Zeal for her Service ; that they were very sensibly affected with the Esteem she express'd for *Osman's* Memory, and that they would shew her their Gratitude in the Person of *Amurath*, whenever Opportunity should offer. 'Twas after this Manner this ambitious *Sultaness*, had the Address to make sure of those whom she had the most Reason to dread ; and that after having caused the Death of the most amiable of Princes, to bring her Son near the Throne, she likewise made Use of his Ashes as a Step to mount him thereon.

The Cruelty of *Daut* soon furnish'd them with the Occasion they desired ; this Minister, thinking he might venture upon any Thing, being sure of getting it approv'd of by the weak *Mustapha*, sent the *Cappy-Aga*, with several *Cappigis*, to carry off Prince *Amurath*, in the *Sultan's* Name. The *Cappy-Aga*, on entering the Apartment where he was confin'd, commanded him to follow

follow him. *Amurath* was then but thirteen Years old, but his Wit and Penetration being beyond his Age he was immediately sensible of the Danger that threatned him, and answer'd him with a loud and resolute Voice : *What ! Villain, would you treat me as you have before done my Brother ?*

And at the same Time filling his Apartment with his Cries, he added : *Is there no Body then about me, of those who have been faithful to my Father and my Brother, to defend me against these base Assassins ?* These Words were the Signal for the Eunuchs, who appear'd at the same Instant, all armed, and vigorously opposed the *Capy-Aga's* Retinue, who used their utmost Efforts to seize on *Amurath* ; and *Salek*, one of the Eunuchs who had spoken to the Empress, placing himself between the Prince and the *Capy-Aga*, who was very zealous to have executed his Orders, struck off his Head with one Stroke of his Scymeter : The other Eunuchs, encouraged by the Death of this Traytor, drove away his Attendants Scymeter in Hand, and they no longer having any Leader, made but a faint Resistance, but sought their Safety in their Flight.

On the first Noise that this Attempt made, the Sultaness *Kiosem*, fill'd the whole Seraglio with her Outcries, demanding Justice of *Mustapha* and the *Divan* upon the Contrivers of this villainous Enterprize ; interweaving artfully the Name of *Osman* with her Complaints, and giving out that those who had deprived that Prince of his Life, wanted also to destroy the only one who was able to re-establish the Glory of the Empire.

At

At this News, all the City was in an Alarm, and the Grief for the Loss of *Osman*, which the People had concealed through Fear, having a fresh Pretence to break out, nothing was heard every where but the Cry of Revenge : As *Apkendina* likewise had not been idle since the Sultan's Death, having written to all the *Bassa*'s in the most remote Provinces concerning that Prince's deplorable End, they had all taken up Arms, and would no longer obey *Mustapha*'s Orders; declaring openly, and causing it to be published every where, that he was the Murtherer of his Nephew, and had no Right to the Empire, and demanding that he should be deposed.

These Alarms, these Murmurs, and these Insurrections, breaking out in all Parts at a Time, struck a Terror into the Heart of *Daut*; and the more when the *Divan* met, and sent to demand of *Mustapha*, if it was by his Orders the Attempt had been made upon *Amurath*'s Life. The Sultan returned for Answer, that the Days of that Prince were dear to him, and he exhorted them to discover the Authors of this enormous Crime, and to punish them severely. This Answer redoubled the Murmurs of the *Divan*, and every one crying out that the *Vizier* was guilty, and deserved the worst of Punishments, Orders were immediately given for seizing him, and bringing him to the *Divan*.

But *Daut* having timely Notice of these Proceedings, and being as fearful in Adversity, as arrogant and haughty in Prosperity, fled from Constantinople, and concealed himself on the Borders of the Black Sea, accompanied with only one Man

Man, named *Serranck*, whom he had raised to the Dignity of *Vizier* of the Bench. The Sultaness *Philatra*, *Mustapha's* Mother, seeing the Storm that hung over that Prince's Head, and being desirous to ward it off, sent for the principal Officers of the *Janizaries*, and carressing them highly, told them that the Advancement of her Son being the Work of their Hands, they were bound in Honour to support it. They promised her they would, and advised her to distribute some Money amongst the *Janizaries*; she accordingly sent them a Million of Sultanins, and as she saw no Probability of her Son-in-Law *Daut's*, being restored, she gave the Seals of the Empire to *Mahomet Giurgi Baffa*, an old Eunuch, whom his Merit had raised to the highest Employments. After all these Steps, she imagined herself in Safety, and in order to retrieve the Affections of the People, who are generally delighted with Shews, she appointed a Day for the *Sultan's* making a Cavalcade through *Constantinople*.

But all her Care and Precautions were to no Purpose; the Presence of *Mustapha*, only added to the Contempt they before had of this Prince, and renewed their Grief for the Loss of *Osman*, whose Praises they sang aloud; comparing his graceful Appearance and Behaviour on such an Occasion, with the aukard Air of *Mustapha*, which provoked a general Laughter. In short, every one discovered, without any Respect or Restraint, the Love he bore the deceased, and his Hatred and Contempt of the Living. The *Valido* being informed of the Disaffection of the People to her Son, resolved never more to expose him in Publick; and having likewise heard that 'twas in every Body's Mouth, that the Arrogance of the
new

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new *Grand Vizier*, would compleat the Destruction of every Thing, and that alluding to his being a Eunuch, they gave out that the Empire was now governed by two Women, she took from him the Seals, and delivered them to *Ussain Baffa*.

In the mean while the *Baffa's of Asia* had already raised several Armies, which under Pretence of revenging *Osman's Death*, committed horrible Disorders. The Imperial City, and the *Seraglio*, were full of Troubles and Factions ; the *Janizaries* were then looked upon with Horror ; and the People who found themselves supported by the Discontent of the Great Ones, and the Insurrections of the Provinces, no longer concealed their Detestation of them, loading them every Moment with Curses and Abuses, as being guilty of all the Great *Osman's Misfortunes*.

The *Janizaries*, at first, justified themselves with Insolence ; but finding themselves insulted, detested and abhorred throughout the Empire, they began to be sensible of all the Horror of their Crime ; and repenting their giving Way to their Fury, laid all the Guilt of his Murder upon *Daut*, whom they cursed every Day. The Empress being informed by the *Mufti* her Father, how the People were affected ; that the whole Empire demanded Vengeance on those *Barbarians*, for all the Cruelties and Indignities they had exercised upon her unhappy Husband ; and that it was now Time for her to discover her just Resentment, never hesitated a Moment upon what Course she should take ; but went directly to the *Divan*, attended by all her Ladies, and all the Officers of her Household.

The

The Assembly was very numerous ; but the Presence of that great Princess, immediately caused a profound Silence, every one being impatient to know what had brought her thither ; and they received her with such Marks of Respect and Admiration, as sufficiently shew'd they had not forgot, she was the illustrious Widow of the great *Osman*. This encouraged her to spare no Pains to incite their Souls to Vengeance. In order to this, she gave them a succinct and particular Account of all the Cruelties and Indignities they had exercised upon him, from the Time of their first seizing him, to the violent and ignominious Death they had made him suffer ; accompanying this melancholy Recital, with so many Tears, that the Veil which covered her Face was wet through with the piteous Shower.

The whole Assembly could not forbear sympathizing with her. The Majesty of *Aphendina* ; the Gracefulness she retained even in the Excess of her Grief ; the Energy of the Expressions she used to call to their Remembrance the Virtues, Innocence, and cruel Destiny of *Osman* ; all wrought such an Effect upon their Minds, that not one had Resolution enough to get the better of the Emotions of his Soul ; all were in Tears, and all promised her Justice upon the Authors and Abettors of so black an Enterprize. The Sultanness *Kiosem*, who had been informed of the Procedure of the Empress, entered at the same Time, and complained of the Design that had been formed against *Amurath*, demanding that the Contrivers thereof might be severely punished. She could not have taken a more favourable Opportunity for obtaining her Desire,

Aphendina's

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Aphendina's Discourse had put the *Divan* into such a Flame, that they could not refuse the Revenge that was required of their Justice ; and they took that very Day all the Measures necessary for that Purpose.

In the mean while, *Daut*, flattering himself that *Mustapha* and the *Valide* would screen him from the Punishment due to his Crimes, caused a large Sum of Money to be distributed among the Soldiers ; after which, pushed on by his unbounded Ambition, or rather by the invisible Hand of divine Justice, which hurried him on to his Fate, he returned to *Constantinople* ; with a Design to re-establish himself upon the Ruins of *Calil*, Captain *Bassa*, or high Admiral, whom he had the Audaciousness to accuse in a full *Divan*, as the Author of all the Misfortunes of the State. He pretended, that this *Bassa* alone, had been the Cause of the Rebellion of the *Bassa's* of *Affrya*, and *Bagdat*, who massacred without Mercy, all the *Janizaries* that fell into their Hands ; that these *Bassa's* were related to *Calil*, who had adopted them, having no Children of his own ; and that his Design was to gain them entirely over to his Interest, and to push on the Revolt, till it spread even to *Constantinople*, and over-run all the Imperial City ; that the Soldiery were very well informed of his secret Machinations, insomuch that they had even assualted him in the Streets, as an Enemy, both to the *Sultan* and the State.

The perfidious *Daut* maintained these Accusations with the more Boldness, as he had himself been the Author of these Reports about *Calil*, and had hired Soldiers to assassinate him, that by his

his Death he might get Possession of his Place, which was the second Post in the Empire : And to leave nothing unsaid, that might effectually ruin him, he likewise laid to his Charge, his having suffered the *Levantines* to leave their Vessels, which gave them an Opportunity of committing such infinite Ravages in the Imperial City. The Captain *Bassa*, who was then present in the *Divan*, easily justified himself from these Calumnies, and repelling Lies with Truth, proved *Daut* the sole Author both of *Osman's* Death, and the Design against *Amurath*.

Daut thinking to confound his Enemy, produced *Mustapha's* Order for the Death of *Osman*; but as to what concerned *Amurath*, he made such wretched Excuses, that all the Assembly who already abhorred him for his first Crime, scrupled not in the least believing him guilty of the second ; and as they were just going to pronounce his Sentence, three thousand *Janizaries* in Arms, appeared before the Hall of the *Divan*, and demanded to have the Authors of these two black Attempts condemned to the worst of Punishments. The head Officers of this Body were in the Interests of the *Sultaness Kiosem*, and it was not doubted, but they had been brought thither by her Orders.

Their Outcries and Clamours alarmed the Traitor *Daut*, who instantly made his Escape into the *Seraglio*; but the *Janizaries* soon dragged him from thence, as well as *Gebechy Bechy*, who had cut off one of *Osman's* Ears. The latter was try'd upon the Spot, and condemned to lose his Head, which was done that Instant. As for *Daut*, he had Recourse to all manner of Artifices to avoid

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void the same Fate ; but the *Divan* found him so guilty, that they condemned him also to be beheaded. This Sentence being passed upon him, he was that instant delivered into the Hands of the Hangman ; who having stript him of his Robes, carried him to the Side of a Fountain, where having placed him on a sort of Stool, after the Manner of the Turks, he was just going to give him the fatal Stroke, when a Troop of young *Spakis*, called out to the Executioner to hold his Hand. This Respite gave *Daut* some Hopes ; but the *Viziers* rightly judging, it was the *Valide* had sent them to save him, had him conducted to the Castle of the Seven Towers, where about Four in the Evening he was strangled.

Here one cannot too much admire the visible Effects of the divine Justice, which decreed, that this Traytor should be drawn to the Seven Towers in the same Cart as *Osmān*, that he should drink by the Way at the same Spring, and that he should suffer the same Punishment, in the same Chamber and Place, where he had caused the Death of that great Prince.

These two first Victims began to satisfy Part of the Great Ones and the People, who breathed nothing but Hatred and Revenge against *Osmān's* Murtherers. *Aphendina* herself felt a Sort of Consolation therein, but it was not yet enough for all in general, and their Lamentations could not be entirely appeased, as long as the Soldiers should triumph in their Villany, and *Mustapha* should be upon the Throne. The sole Views of every one being the humbling of the *Janizaries*, and depositing of the *Sultan*, the *Bassa's* who had taken up Arms in *Asia*, already gave them the Pleasure of

of the one, by cutting off Root and Branch as many as fell into their Hands, not giving any Quarter even to their Wives and Children. They took Possession of all the strong Holds, and converted to their own Use, the Revenues of their respective Provinces, without any ones opposing their Violences ; such an Ascendant over every one, did the Pretence of revenging *Osman's* Death afford them.

This News being carried to *Constantinople*, had different Effects : The Creatures of the *Valide* were alarmed thereat, and the great Ones, and Persons of the best Rank rejoiced ; but these contrary Sentiments, only added to the Disorders that already reigned in the City, and the *Seraglio*. The *Valide*, who had hoped to satisfy the Disaffected, by delivering the Seals of the Empire to *Ussan-Bassa*, found herself deceived in her Expectation, by the Violence of the *Janizaries* ; whose Rage being still fomented by *Kiosem*, and who besides hoping to expiate their Crime by disapproving of the present Government, ran in Crowds to the Palace of this new *Vizier*, obliged him to give up the Seals, and forced the *Valide* to confer them on *Aly-Bassa*, one of their Leaders.

This Princess however, did not lose Courage, and even affected an Air of Constancy and Tranquillity ; but fearing *Mustapha's* Extravagancies, which increased every Day, would at last cause his Downfall, she resolved upon removing him out of the Power of those Mutineers, by carrying him to a Pleasure House about a League from *Constantinople*, which *Daut* had built after the *Italian* manner, at the Head of a charming Valley
to

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to which he had given his Name, and which beyond Question, was one of the most delightful Places in the Empire.

To give some Colour for this Departure, the *Sultaness* had it given out, that Change of Air was necessary for the *Sultan's* Health ; however 'twas rightly judged that it was only to conceal the better the Disorder of his Brain, to get him out of the Power of the Seditious. In Effect, he was condemn'd to such a Degree, that there was no longer any Obedience paid to his Orders, and fresh Troubles arose in the State every Day ; but the most dangerous of all, and which caused at last the Ruin of both Mother and Son, was, the Insurrection of *Abaza*, Governor of *Erzerum*. He had already refused to lay down his Government ; the *Bassa* of *Aleppo* had done the same ; and both the one and the other had sent Word, that they would not resign the Post the great *Osman* had conferred upon them, until they had fully revenged his tragical Death.

The *Bassa's* of the other Provinces, and especially those which lay contiguous to *Persia*, had made the same Answer ; and all of them cloaking their real Designs, under the Pretence of revenging *Osman*, and preserving the remains of the *Ottoman* Family, declared by Manifesto's posted up in all the Cities under their Jurisdiction, that the *Janizaries*, and *Spabis*, were the Enemies of the State, and the Parricides of their Emperors, exhorting the People to exterminate them as publick Nusances.

But *Abaza* did not stop at Writings alone ; he raised an Army, which he increased to the Number

ber of forty Thousand Men, wherewith he besieged *Acisar*, which he took by Storm, putting to the Sword the whole Garrison, consisting of eight Thousand Janizaries. From thence pushing on his victorious Arms, he made himself Master of Part of *Natolia*, and laid Siege to the City of *Caraisar*, within a few Days March of *Constantinople*: And in order to add the more Weight and Credit to his Arms, he caused it to be given out, that *Sultan Osman*, had appeared to him in a Mosque, all over covered with those Indignities which the inhuman Soldiery had put upon him, and had addressed himself to him as follows.

*Generous Mussulman, the faithfulllest of my Slaves
revenge my ignominious Death, by the Slaughter of
Sixty Thousand Janizaries and Spahis; march, hast
away, Fortune shall accompany your Arms, and
Victory shall crown your Labour.*

This was translated out of the *Turkif*, into the Arabian and Persian Tongues, and distributed all over the Empire. Those People, who are superstitious to Excess, and who besides, only wanted a favourable Opportunity to discover their Hatred to the Soldiers, seized eagerly on the Pretence of this supposed Apparition to satisfy it, thinking the Blood of all the Janizaries and Spahis scarce sufficient, to revenge the Death of an Emperor who had been so dear to them, and whose Memory they still highly cherished. Wherefore all the Soldiers of those two Corps who fell into their Hands, were immediately sacrificed to *Osman's Ghost*.

Abaza, who lamented this Prince Night and Day, whom he loved with an extream Tenderness, and whose Despair for his Loss, had made him void of all Pity for his Enemies, carry'd his Fury yet farther, to extipate entirely that insolent Generation ; causing even the Bellies of all the Janizaries and Spakis Wives to be ript open, and thus destroying at once both Mothers and Children. But what is most extraordinary is, that this uncommon Barbarity struck no Body with Horror ; every one looking upon it as a just Retribution of their unworthy Treatment of *Osmar*, and them as the due Victims to his mournful Shade.

The News of all these Occurrences being punctually brought to *Constantinople*, filled the whole City with Alarms and Commotions. The *Valide* used her utmost Efforts to appease them ; but the *Sultaness Kiefem*, by her Intrigues, render'd in a Moment ineffectual all she could do. By her Means it became known that *Mustapha's* Folly was grown to such a Height, that there was no longer any Hopes of his Amendment ; and that it seemed as if the Stings of a troubled Conscience added to his Phrenzy.

He would rise frequently in the Night, and run into the Gardens of his Solitude, crying with a loud Voice : *OSMAN, OSMAN, come again, and take the Reins of thy Empire ; its Weight is too heavy for me ; I can't support it ; it bears me down, and I shall sink under the Burthen.* This Disorder of his Brain, reduced his Mother to Despair ; but her Sorrows were at the Height, on hearing that the formidable *Abaza* had beaten the Troops sent against him, under the Command of the *Bassa Ci-*

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Cigal, to force him to raise the Seige of *Caraisar*; and that he had destroyed, with Fire and Sword, all the *Janizaries* and *Spahis* who had fallen into his Hands; insomuch, that it was computed he had already sacrificed fifteen thousand of them to *Osman's Memory*.

The *Janizaries*, fearing that after the reducing *Caraisar*, he would march directly to *Constantinople*, and cut them all in Pieces, held a Council in their Camp, wherein it was resolved; that all their Corps in general should march against *Abaza* in a Fortnight, without exempting the *Vriziers*, the *Agas*, or any of the other Great Officers of the Porte, on any Pretext whatsoever. The *Spahis*, after their Example, met together before *Soliman's Mosque*, and came to the same Resolution; and altho', almost on every Occasion, these two Corps are of contrary Opinions, yet as they had committed the same Crime, by joining together in the same Rebellion, and knew themselves equally guilty, the Fear of that Punishment they all deserved a-like, again re-united them.

But whilst they were thus endeavouring to secure themselves from their due Punishment, *Mustapha's Residence at Daut* seem'd to *Kiosem* so favourable an Opportunity for striking a bold Stroke, that she resolved not to let it slip: Wherefore, being supported by the Empress, for whom all the Great Officers had a most profound Respect, and by the Credit of the *Mufty* her Father, who breath'd nothing but Revenge, she sent Word to the *Viziers*, *Bassa's*, and *Aga's*, that the Time was now come to render the Justice they had promis'd to her and *Apkendina*;

and that they might now in one Day only, revenge *Osmān*, and appease the Troubles of the State, by deposing *Mustaphā*, and setting *Amurath* on the Throne.

As there was not one of them who did not desire a Change for his own private Interest, exclusive of the Justice of advancing to *Amurath* the Throne, and the *Musty* was continually inciting them all to revenge, they assured *Kiosem* that they were ready to second her with all their Power. There remained then no more for that artful Woman but to gain the *Grand Vizier*, and the principal *Agas* of the *Janizaries*, who ow'd their Employments to the Rebels, and lov'd *Mustaphā* because of his great Liberalities, preferring their own sordid Interest to the Good of the State, without troubling themselves about its Welfare, or the ill Government.

But the subtle *Kiosem*, who knew they began to repent of their Cruelties to *Osmān*, and were afraid of having the Vengeance of the formidable *Abaza* fall upon them, enlarged with so much Art upon the Victories of that famous Captain, that in a secret Assembly, where several *Viziers* were met, with the *Musty* at their Head, having represented to them that Male-Administration was the Cause of the Revolt of the Provinces, and that the *Bassa's*, who had taken up Arms to revenge *Osmān*, would undoubtedly lay them down, when they should see him deposed that put him to Death, and had placed *Amurath*, the lawful Heir to the Empire, upon the Throne; for whom they knew the great *Osmān* had always a sincere Affection; that in an Instant she united all who were of a contrary Opinion, and engaged

engaged them with one Accord to intreat the *Mufly* to deliver the *Fetfa* of *Mustapha's* Deposition : That High Priest, who desired nothing more ardently, took the Pen that Moment, and delivered it in this Manner :

That according to the Law of Mahomet, the Mussulmen were forbid obeying a Madman.

This *Fetfa* being communicated to the *Grand Vizier*, he immediately summoned an *Agatk Divan*, or a Council where every Thing is debated standing, to shew the Extremity to which the State is reduced, in the Mosque of *Soliman II.* and there in Consequence of the *Fetfa*, which was read aloud, the whole Assembly concluded, That for the Good of the Empire *Mustapha* should be deposed, and *Sultan Amurath* be set upon the Throne.

After which, the *Grand Vizier* having represented that the Treasury was quite exhausted, it was resolved that the Soldiers should require no Donative, because that *Mustapha* ought not to have been advanced to the Empire, to the Prejudice of *Achmet's* Children, who were the lawful Heirs. This having been all agreed on, September 13, 1623, the *Grand Vizier* went that very Day to *Daut*, with several Attendants of an approved Courage, and had the Boldness to read to *Mustapha* the Result of the Council, and the *Mufly's* *Fetfa*.

The Weakness of that Prince made him hear this Sentence with Insensibility, and without expressing the least Mark of Resentment : But the *Sultana Valide*, who was present, reproach'd the

Vizier highly for his Treason and Ingratitude ; and carrying the *Sultan* immediately back to the *Seraglio*, and shutting herself in her Cabinet to consider of some Means to divert this Storm, preserve the Empire for her Son, and not fall herself from the Height of Greatness, she resolved upon the most horrid Design, that Ambition and Rage could inspire. She summoned together her Eunuchs, and most faithful Domesticks, and giving them Silken Halters, delivered them an Order from the *Sultan* to go and strangle the *Sultane's* *Kiosem*, with *Amurath*, and all the Princes his Brothers.

These Messengers of Death went accordingly, thinking to find their Victims in their Beds ; but the *Grand Vizier*, who had judged what the *Valide* was capable of, by the Fury she had discover'd at the Reading of the *Fetfa*, had taken the Precaution to conduct the *Sultane's* *Kiosem*, with the Princes, to a Pavillion in the *Seraglio* Gardens, over which he placed a good Guard, which he himself commanded ; and hereby the fatal Design of this cruel Woman proved abortive. When she heard she had miss'd her Aim, her Rage and Despair grew to such a Height, that she seized one of the Silken Halters she had given to the Eunuchs, and putting it about her Neck, was going to have strangled herself, if all her Women and Domesticks had not got about her and prevented her.

But she struggled so long in their Hands, that being quite spent with her Efforts, she fell down in a Swoon, and the Fit held her so long that 'twas thought she would never have recovered ; however, at last she came to herself, and pass'd

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the rest of the Night in all the Despair that an ambitious Woman can feel, who sees herself upon the Point of falling from the highest Fortune of being exposed to the Contempt of those who had adored her, and also to the Discretion of those she had offended.

Whilst she was thus tormenting herself with unavailing Grief, the *Sultaness Kiosem*, who was yet a thousand Times more ambitious, and who had only attain'd to that happy Moment by numberless Intrigues and Crimes, celebrated her Success by the tender Embraces she gave her Son, entertaining him with the Greatness to which he was going to be raised, and instructing him how he should act when they came to set him upon the Throne.

Amurath, who already shew'd what he would be one Day, hearkened to her with Respect, but with an Air that shew'd her he had no need of her Lessons ; and when she had done speaking, without answering her to what she had been saying, ask'd her after the Empress, and whether she was inform'd of this Event ? *Kiosem* was a little surprized at this Question, and being stung with Jealousy, was some Time without opening her Lips ; but being press'd by this young Prince, she was forced to answer him, that *Aphendina* was not only no Stranger to what had pass'd ; but had even contributed to the getting him advanced to the Empire, which his Uncle *Mustapha* had usurped, to his Prejudice.

I expected no less from that Princess, said *Amurath*, and I will shew her my Acknowledgment by applying myself strenuously to the Re-

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venging *Osman*, my Brother and her Spouse. These Words redoubled the Astonishment of the *Sultana*, not being able to imagine what should induce her Son to seem more sensible of what he thought he owed his Brother's Widow, than of the Glory of Reigning : But she did not know that this Prince, from whom the *Valide* had not had the Precaution to remove the Domesticks the Emperor *Osman* had placed about him, had been wholly entertain'd since his Death, with the Indignities that had been put upon him, the Insolence of the *Janizaries*, and the melancholy and languishing Life led by the Empress, who they said expected her Revenge only from him.

This Discourse, continually inculcated to him, together with his Remembrance of the Affection *Osman* and *Aphendina* had always testify'd for him, had given him as much Hatred to the *Janizaries* as his Brother, and so great an Esteem for the Empress, that he only desired the Sovereign Power, that he might have an Opportunity of shewing it to her : This it was made him talk in this Manner to his Mother ; but as he had derived from her the Art of dissembling, he let her know nothing of his private Sentiments, not being willing to discover them 'till it should be a proper Time.

In the mean while, as it was not by a Revolt, or through Caprice that *Mustapha* was deposed, but by the general Consent of the Soldiery, the Great Men, and the People, it was resolved to observe some Form of Justice in his dethroning : To this End the *Mufly*, and the Heads of the *Divan*,

Divan, caused the *Seraglio* to be invested by break of Day, with above fifty thousand Men, who demanded *Mustapha* to appear in the *Divan*, and render that Justice which he owed to his faithful Subjects; and about Six in the Morning the *Mufly*, the *Grand Vizier*, and almost all the Ministers went to that Prince's Apartment, and told him that his Subjects waited his Commands, and that he was desired to come to the *Divan*.

As they were all sensible of *Mustapha*'s Weakness, they judged that either his Words or Actions would evidently prove his Incapacity, wherefore they made this Demand only to oblige him to appear in Publick, that every one might be convinced of the Necessity there was of deposing him; but those the *Valide* had placed about him prevented his going out: However, he spoke to them with so little Sense or Reason, that all the Assembly pitied him, and there needed no more to convince them of his Folly. Wherefore the *Mufly*, and the other Ministers, going back to the *Divan*, and giving them a faithful Account of his Behaviour, a thousand Voices cry'd out unanimously, *Long live Sultan Amurath*; and that very Moment the same Deputies carried that Prince the News of his Advancement.

The *Mufly*, who was the Spokesman, had no sooner told him that the *Divan* and the People had chosen him their Emperor; but *Amurath* answered, that he was the more obliged to them, as he was sensible he was yet too young to govern so powerful an Empire; that therefore he did not accept it, as believing himself worthy thereof;

but only because he knew it was his Right by Inheritance, and with Hopes they would teach him how to Reign ; but that being inform'd the Treasury was empty, he was not in a Condition to give the Donative to the Soldiers which they required from every new Emperor ; that his Brother's tragical Death was always before his Eyes ; and that it would be very cruel to see himself raised so high, to fall afterwards by the Caprice and Greediness of those whom God had only created to obey.

So wise and sensible a Speech caused Admiration in the Ministers, and made them judge they had every Thing to hope from *Amurath* : But the Astonishment of his Mother was yet greater, in hearing him speak in this Manner of his own accord ; the Instructions she had just given him having no Conformity with what he had then said, she having discoursed him only about Glory, Greatnes, and Politicks. However, the *Mufly* having assured *Amurath* that a Remedy had been found for the Inconvenience of the Donative, and that he was secure from the Caprice of the Soldiers, the Deputies cloath'd him with a Robe of Cloth of Gold and Silver, and seating him upon a Sofa of Crimson Velvet embroider'd with Gold, carry'd him in that Manner to the *Divan*, where they placed him upon the Throne that was there prepared for him.

Although *Amurath* had not the Beauty of *Osmān*, nor the same Gracefulness as that amiable Prince, and his Looks already shew'd the Severity of the Ottomans, yet as he was well made, and his Air was grave and majestick, he was still thought handsome, and had several Admirers.
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The *Mufti* was the first that approach'd the Throne, and kiss'd his Hand; after which, turning to the Assembly, he ask'd them if all in general and in particular, did not accept of *Amurath* with Joy for their Emperor: They answered him only with repeated Acclamations, upon which the *Mufti* cry'd out with a loud Voice, *Long live Amurath IV. our Emperor*; the same Words were repeated by the whole *Divan*, with a Noise that inform'd the Soldiery and the People what was doing in the *Seraglio*, who instantly made the Palace resound with a thousand joyful Shouts.

The same Day the *Divan* gave Orders for *Amurath's* Proclamation, which was perform'd with universal Applause, in Hopes of seeing *Ottoman's* innocent Blood revenged, and an End put to the publick Miseries. After his Inauguration, *Muftipha* was conducted back to his Cell, whether he suffered himself to be led without the least Complaint; too happy in that the *Mahometan* Law renders the Lives of Madmen sacred and inviolable: His Mother was again put into the old *Seraglio*, and the *Sultane's* Kiosen declared *Valide*.

As the Ambition of this *Sultane's* began now to be satisfy'd, and she had only set so many Wheels a going, and committed so many Crimes and unjust Actions to attain to this Height of Glory, she was no sooner in Possession thereof, but she supply'd the Place of her former Audaciousness, Treachery, and Dissimulation, with Equity, Prudence, and Sincerity. Equally endued with Vices and Virtues, as she had made Use of the
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first to raise herself to Sovereign Authority, she had Recourse to none but the last to maintain herself therein.

The Minority of her Son leaving her Mistress of his Education, and of the Administration of Affairs, she acquitted herself thereof with so much Success, that the most experienced Ministers could not refuse her their Admiration. 'Tis true, she found such a happy Disposition in *Amurath*, that she had the less Trouble in governing the Empire, that Prince seconding her with a surprizing Application, his forward Genius giving him an Insight into the most difficult Things.

He was no sooner disengaged from the Ceremonies of his Accession to the Throne, than his first Care was to go and visit the Empress, which he did with all the Pomp and Splendor belonging to his Dignity. *Aphendina*, who did not doubt but he would show her that Regard, receiv'd him with a respectful Majesty, wherein she was neither wanting in what she ow'd the Emperor, nor in what was due to herself. Although she was in a most profound Melancholy, and her Dress was destitute of all the Ornaments that might set off the Lustre of her Charms, her modest and languishing Air, with some Tears which the Sight of *Amurath* made her shed, render'd her so beautiful, and so much to be respected in that Prince's Eyes, that he was seiz'd with Admiration at the Sight of her.

After some Moments Silence, "I am not
" come, said he, to call again to your Mind a
" melan-

" melancholy Remembrance, nor to display before you the Pomp of the Sovereign Power,
" I am only come to render you what all Men
" owe you, of whatever Rank they be; and to set my Subjects an Example, which may induce them to look upon you and respect you as their lawful Sovereign. I mourn what you lament, and shudder with Horror and Anger, when I think that I only owe the Empire to the most dreadful of all Events; and I could wish to be still far from it, and to see again upon the Throne my Brother and your Spouse.

Amurath said this with a peculiar Grace; Sincerity was painted in his Face; and although the Empress could not refrain her Tears all the while he was speaking, she nevertheless felt a sensible Consolation therein. " My Lord, answered she, these Sentiments are worthy of Achmet's Son and *Osman*'s Brother; I never doubted but your Heart entertained them; accordingly it is not the present Event that causes my Tears: The Throne is your Inheritance; and 'tis with all the Joy whereof my melancholy Fate renders me capable that I see your Highness ascend it: 'Twas even an Addition to my lively Grief, that your tender Years prevented your possessing it at the Time of *Osman*'s Death, you would already have revenged him: But at last, great Emperor, (continued she, with a more resolute Voice) the illustrious Brother, his Widow, and all the Empire, expect his Revenge only from you: Remember that those Acclamations which you lately heard at your Accession to the Throne, those joyful Shouts a thousand Times redoubled

" those

“ those Marks of Love and Admiration ; and
“ those Blessings which are heap'd upon you,
“ are but the same Emotions with which all
“ Hearts seemed transported at your Brother's
“ Accession ; and nevertheless, these same Hearts
“ forgot their Love, their Joy, their Admira-
“ tion and their Blessings, to betray him, de-
“ throne him, load him with Ignominy, and
“ massacre him. Let this Example, great *Amu-*
“ *rath*, serve as a Torch to light you in your
“ Conduct, and in revenging us.

The deep Sighs with which the Empress interrupted the End of her Speech, drew Tears from all who were present at this Interview. *Amurath* was highly moved therewith ; his Eyes sparkled with new Fire ; a lively Colour over-spread his Face ; and addressing himself to her with an Air that already struck a Terror into the Beholders : “ I have sworn it, great Empress,” said he, and if your just Grief can receive any Alleviation from the Care I will take to satisfy you ; from this Moment you may set your Heart at Ease.

The rest of this Conversation pass'd almost in the same Manner, and concluded with new Protestations from *Amurath*, and sincere Marks of Esteem and Friendship from the Empress. All that this Princess said to the *Sultan*, made so deep an Impression in his Mind, that he could no longer mention *Osman* without shedding Tears, nor pronounce the Names of the Chiefs of the *Janizaries* and *Spahis*, without Horror and Indignation ; and from that Moment he form'd a Plan of Revenge against these Assassins, whose Success was infallible, to the End he might exten-

exterminate them, without exposing his Life and his Empire.

But what was most admirable was, that this Prince, as young as he was, knew so well the Importance of his Design, that he had the Prudence to conceal till the Instant he put it in Execution, without even acquainting his Mother therewith. That Princess, however, was too penetrating not to perceive, that *Amurath's* perfect Esteem for *Aphendina* would incite him as much to Vengeance, as the Justice that was due to *Osman's* innocent Blood: But as her Ambition was satisfy'd, and by her Precautions she was safe from being comprehended in the Number of the Guilty, she never endeavoured to divert the *Sultan* from his Designs; on the contrary, as she was persuaded, she could not make herself either loved or feared, but by expressing a sensible Concern for *Osman's* Fate, by hating his Enemies, and seeming willing to extirpate them, she never talk'd with her Son but about the Desire she had to see him revenge his Brother, whilst she employ'd all her Skill in Politicks, to appease the Troubles and Revolts, the Pretence of this Revenge had occasion'd throughout *Asia*.

Many of the *Bassa's*, whose Governments border'd upon *Persia*, had enter'd into an Alliance with the *Sophy*, to maintain themselves in their Provinces, and make them hereditary in their Families. Nevertheless the *Sultaness Kiosem*, managed so well by her Stratagems, Subtleties, and infinite Pains, that she prevail'd on them to return to their Duty; *Abaza* alone would not be moved either by her Threats or her Promises: As he was the most formidable, both by the power-

ful

ful Army he commanded, and by his Valour and Capacity, the *Valide* thought she had done nothing as long as he continued her Enemy. This Man, who was Master of all the Qualifications that form a great General, and whom Fortune seem'd to lead by the Hand in all his Enterprizes, after the taking of *Caraifur*, had advanced almost to the Heart of *Natolia*, where he put all to Fire and Sword, exhorting the People to second him, in revenging the Death of the Great *Osfman*. The extreme Zeal of this famous Rebel had render'd him very dear to the Empress, and the *Mufly* her Father, who had both of them written to him to thank him, and incourage him to pursue the *Janizaries* to the last Man.

The *Sultaness Kiosem*, who had her Spies every where, was no Stranger to the good Understanding between *Abaza* and the *Mufly* and Empress; she even knew that this General had assur'd *Aphendina* but a little before, that he would never lay down his Arms, till he had sacrificed to *Osfman's* Ghost, all who had contributed either to his Dethronment or Death. And rightly judging she should never gain this Enemy, unless she could bend the Heart of the Empress, she resolved to leave no Stone unturn'd to effect it. With this Design she went one Day into the Apartment of that Princess, where, after the first Civilities, having turn'd the Conversation upon Affairs of State, she acquainted her with the Difficulty she had met with in bringing back the Rebels to the Obedience they owed the *Sultan*; "But, continued she, looking "on her with Confidence, the most formidable "of them is too hard for my Politicks; and I
" see

" see 'tis for you alone that Heaven reserves the
" Glory of subduing him.

" *Abaza*, the invincible *Abaza*, arm'd for the
" justest and most righteous Cause, despises both
" Promises and Threats ; and as his Victories
" seem to justify his Rebellion, he is void both
" of Remorse and Fear ; but, Madam, the Ex-
" cess of his Zeal for *Osman* exposes the Empire
" to imminent Danger. The Pretence of this
" Revenge has put *Asia* in a Flame ; *Abaza's*
" Revolt has embolden'd several others, who,
" under the Name of the Revengers of *Osman*,
" labour only for their own private Interests, in
" Order to shake off the Yoke of their Em-
" peror, make themselves Masters of our Cities
" and Provinces, and come and give us Laws
" even in *Constantinople*. Nevertheless all these
" Evils will be at an End if you say but one
" Word ; *Abaza* adores too much the Memory
" of your august Spouse, not to be obedient to
" your Orders ; and *Sultan Amurath* will be
" eternally indebted to you, if you would un-
" dertake to bring him to an Accommodation ;
" his Highness will leave you Mistress of the
" Conditions, and will keep, with an inviolable
" Fidelity, whatever you shall promise.

The virtuous *Aphendina*, who from *Kiosem's*
first Words had a Suspicion what they tended
to, answer'd with her usual Sweetness ; " That
" if *Abaza* had been a Rebel to the Emperor,
" she should never have esteem'd him ; but that
" this great Man did not deserve so odious a
" Name ; that it was true, he was arm'd against
" great part of *Amurath's* Subjects ; but that he
" made War against them as being Accomplices in
" the

" the Death of the most amiable Prince that
" ever was ; and not upon his Emperor, whose
" Authority he had so evidently acknowledged,
" that she was well inform'd as soon as ever he
" heard of his Accession to the Empire, he had
" made his whole Army, whom they term'd
" Rebels, cry out, *Long live Sultan Amurath,*
" *and perish all Sultan Osman's Enemies* ; that
" this last Point was the only Motive of his
" taking up Arms ; that he could not destroy the
" Soldiers, and especially the *Janizaries*, but by
" attacking the Cities and Towns where they
" were ; and that she was so certain he had no
" Design against any but those *Barbarians* ; that
" if she should see him in the middle of the
" Imperial City with his Army, she should not
" be apprehensive of any Danger to the Emperor
" or the Empire : That nevertheless the Re-
" venge she owed her Spouse, not inclining her
" to trouble the State, she would willingly un-
" dertake the reducing *Abaza* to Terms, if his
" Highness himself would assure her, he had
" Confidence enough in her, to leave to her the
" treating this Important Affair.

The *Valide*, who found by *Aphendina*'s Dis-
course, she was afraid they wanted to disarm
Abaza, only with Design afterwards to play him
some scurvy Trick, promised her that *Amurath*
should come himself and desire her to take in
Hand this important Affair ; as also that he
should give her any Security that she should
demand : In effect, that *Sultaneſſ* having shewn
her Son of what Consequence it was to the Em-
pire to bring that Rebel to Terms, he went with
her the very next Morning to the Empress, and
conjured her to use all her Power with *Abaza*

to reduce him ; adding, that he was persuaded, by her good Offices, she might make of this famous Rebel the faithfulest of his Subjects, and that he would become the Pillar and Support of his Authority.

Aphendina made no manner of Scruple of confirming him in these Sentiments, being well assured that *Abaza* fully deserved them ; but not being willing to run any Hazards, before she was convinced they did not make use of her Mediation to destroy this General the more easily, she took all the necessary Precautions that she might have nothing to fear on that Side ; and as *Kiosem* was then sincere in her Intentions, and the Emperor had privately a tender Esteem for *Abaza*, they both did all the Empress required of them for his Security. *Amurath* even promised her, that it was not to stop the Course of a just Revenge, he desired to subdue this *Bassa* ; that his laying down his Arms should not render the Soldiers a jot the more happy, for he would concert his Measures so well, that all who had been concerned in the Rebellion against *Osman*, should be entirely cut off.

A Promise that carry'd such Consolation with it, for a tender and faithful Wife, whom nothing but the Desire of revenging her Spouse had prevented following him to the Grave, determined the Empress to do what they desired of her ; and the very next Day she delivered the *Valide* the Letter she wrote to *Abaza*, which that *Sultaness* took upon her to get convey'd to his Hands. Accordingly it was punctually given him in the midst of his Camp. That General receiv'd it with a profound Respect, but not being

being willing to create any Suspicion in his head Officers and Soldiers, he read it with a loud Voice in their Presence, as follows :

*The Empress APHENDINA,
To the generons ABAZA, Revenger of
the Great OSMAN.*

I Nvincible Abaza, the Confidence I repose in you, for the indefatigable Zeal you express every Day for the Memory of my Spouse, your august Master, makes me hope you will not refuse to lay down your formidable Arms, and employ them hereafter only against the Enemies of Sultan Amurath, Brother, and lawful Successor to the Great Osman, whom God and our Prophet have placed upon the Throne. His Highness esteems you, and by my Means will give you undeniable Proofs thereof, if you will restore Peace to all Asia, by accepting the advantageous and honourable Conditions which I have engaged to procure you.

APHENDINA, Empress.

No sooner had *Abaza* read this Letter, but he assembled his Council, where every one told him they perceived it was one of *Kiosem's* Artifices, and that she had Recourse to the known Integrity and Sincerity of the Empress, to draw him into the Snare, that was undoubtedly prepared for him ; that all the Proposals that could be made to him would only be to divide his Army, and thereby deprive him of the Means of being assisted ; that there was no Room to doubt but the Empress had been obliged to this Step, and that perhaps she was not over and above satisfy'd with it herself ; that it was incumbent

cumbent upon him in Prudence to run no Hazards in such a delicate Affair, before he had evident Proofs of the Sincerity of the Porte's Intentions, and of *Aphendina*'s Approbation.

This Reasoning was too sensible to meet with any Opposition from *Abaza*, the more, because the Fury with which he was animated against the *Janizaries* and *Spahis* was not yet satisfy'd, their Heads, the principal Authors of *Osman*'s Misfortunes being not yet punished for their Crimes: Wherefore it was resolved, he should answer the Empress with all the Respect that great Princess deserved; but that nevertheless he should give her to understand, that judging of the Virtue of others by herself, she suffered herself to be deceived by false Appearances, and that the only Design in disarming him, was, to stop the Course of his Vengeance, and to protect those inhuman Villains who had dethroned and put to Death her Imperial Consort.

Whilst *Abaza* and his Council were forming this Resolution, the *Sultaness Kiosem* following always her usual Policy, to render herself Praiseworthy, spread abroad the Report that a Treaty was on Foot with *Abaza*, and that in all Appearance it would be to the Satisfaction of all: This gave so much Joy to the Soldiery, that they went in a Body to thank this *Sultaness* for it, who far from undceiving them, confirmed them herself in this Opinion. Upon this Assurance, the chief of those who had dethroned *Osman*, to the Number of eight thousand either *Spahis* or *Janizaries*, who, since the beginning of the Troubles, had never stirr'd from

Constan-

Constantinople, assembled together in order to go and see their Families. They pass'd over to *Scutari*, and there chose Officers to command, and conduct them to *Gurdistan*, where they were to part: And although they did not in the least doubt of what the *Valide* had told them, they did not omit providing against what might happen, by taking By-Roads to avoid *Abaza's* Troops. But Providence, which had now prepared them the Punishment the Enormity of their Crime deserved, render'd all their Care ineffectual.

Abaza, who had almost as many Friends at *Constantinople* as it contain'd Inhabitants, and especially among the Doctors of the Law, was inform'd of their Design, and Departure, almost as soon as they put it in Execution; as also of the Measures they had taken to avoid him. As soon as he was well appriz'd of their Rout, he march'd at the Head of fifteen thousand Cavalry, each of which carried a Foot Soldier behind him, and made such great Expedition, that he arrived before the *Spakis* and *Janizaries* at a Plain surrounded with Woods, through which they must necessarily pass.

As he was perfectly well acquainted with the Country, he placed half his Troops in Ambush, in the Woods by which the Enemy were to enter the Plain, with an Injunction not to shew themselves on Pain of Death, nor to attack them till he made the Signal agreed on between them. This done, he enter'd the opposite Woods with the rest of the Troops, where he waited not long for his Victims; for two Days after he was inform'd, that they would pass the Plain next Morning before Noon. Nevertheless, on their approach-

approaching the Woods, the General of the *Spahis* and *Janizaries* made a Halt, and sent some *Spahis* upon the Scout; but they only riding along the Skirts of the Woods, returned to their General, and told him there was nothing to fear, insomuch that these miserable Wretches advanced with great Confidence to the middle of the Plain; but when they were arrived there, *Abaza* gave the Signal by great Fires, which he had kindled for that Purpose. These sudden Flames astonished the *Janizaries*, and seeing the Troops fall out of the Woods on all Sides, they no longer doubted of their Destruction: Their first Thought was to turn back; but finding they were surrounded, they took the generous Resolution to defend themselves bravely, and sell their Lives as dear as possible. To this End they form'd themselves into a Square Body, which was supported on each Side by the *Spahis*, divided into four Squadrons; and in this Order they advanced boldly against *Abaza*.

But this General received them in so terrible a Manner, that after two Hours fighting obstinately, their whole Body was broken; and these poor Wretches, seeing themselves surrounded on all Hands, threw down their Arms, and fled towards the Woods, hoping to find therein some Place fit to conceal them: But they were all taken or kill'd, and those who had got into the Woods were massacred there by the Peasants, whom *Abaza*'s March had drawn thither. Fifty Waggons laden with the Effects of these miserable Men were all plunder'd, and their Wives and Children kill'd; neither the Sex of the one, or the tender Years of the other, being able to stop the Fury of their Enemies.

Even

Even they who had surrendered voluntarily, met with no better Fate; *Abaza* caused them all to be impaled, insomuch, that it became a Scene of the utmost Horror. In the height of their Torments he reproach'd them with their Cruelties to the Great *Osfan*; adding, that he only executed the Orders of that august Prince in putting them all to Death; and that the Prophet *Mahomet* reserved yet a more terrible Punishment for them after their Decease, when they would eternally be tormented for their execrable Barbarities: In short, of eight thousand regular Troops, and above four thousand Servants, not one escaped to carry back the News of this entire Defeat.

Abaza's first Care after this Victory was, to acquaint *Amurath*, and the *Divan* therewith, and to send a particular Account of it to the Empress, on purpose to convince every one he had no other Design or Ambition but to revenge *Osfan*. It is hardly possible to express the Joy which this News caused in *Constantinople*; every Voice join'd in singing the Praises of *Abaza*, and celebrating his Glory in having chastised the chief of the Rebels. What was most singular was, that *Aphendina* receiv'd almost at the same Time, *Abaza's* Answer, and the Account of his Victory. She immediately sent the latter to the young Emperor, who, notwithstanding his natural Dissimulation, could not help testifying the Pleasure this Expedition gave him: He even went in all haste to *Aphendina's* Apartment, to express his Joy to her, and admire with her the Conduct, Expedition, and Courage of *Abaza*, whom he highly extoll'd. *Kiosem* alone was extremely

extremely vexed, to see the Reputation of this great Man increase every Day, whom she fear'd with so much the more Reason as she could not undertake any Thing against him, without ruining herself: But her ready Wit still suggesting to her how to turn every Thing to her own Advantage, she took the Opportunity of this fresh Victory, to convince the Emperor how necessary it was for him to gain over this General, and oblige him to lay down his Arms. Aphendina seized on that Moment to shew the Sultan his Answer, which he immediately read aloud before his Mother. It was to this Effect:

ABAZA,
To the most august Empress
APHENDINA.

MOST Noble and Sublime Princess, your Letter crowned with Honour and Gladness the faithful Slave of Sultan Amurath, and we should not have scrupled submitting to your Orders, which are sacred to us, if the Interests of his Highness, and the Memory of the Great Oiman, did not forbid us to lay down our Arms, 'till we have punished those who rebel against the Sovereign Authority, and shewn all Musulmen that Respect and Obedience they ought to have for the august Blood of Ottoman: This is the Command I have received from our great Prophet, who appear'd to me, holding by the Hand the magnanimous Sultan Osman; and 'tis only to obey their Orders that I sacrifice to that great Prince's Revenge all the Janizaries and Spahis. The Youth of our invincible Sultan Amurath prevents his governing in Person; he knows not, as yet, of what Consequence my pursuing my

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Enterprise is to his own Safety. Your own Sincerity, O great Princess! prevents your seeing that Snare that is laid for us under the Colour of an Agreement: We have powerful Enemies both within the Seraglio, and in the Divan; they are also Enemies to his Highness; and we cannot be too careful to prevent their pernicious Designs. Nevertheless, most noble and most august Empress, if our Life can be of any Service to you, we are ready to sacrifice it at your Command, to prove to you the Zeal, profound Respect, and Submission of

ABAZA.

This Letter produced different Effects in the Minds of the *Sultan*, *Aphendina*, and the *Valide*. The latter was stung to the Quick, seeing plainly that *Abaza* had a Jealousy of her; *Amurath* had an ardent Desire of Reigning alone, and shaking off the Yoke of his Mother, to whose Intrigues he was no Stranger; and the Empress, to whose Memory this Letter recall'd a most fatal Catastrophe, without troubling herself about the Affairs of State, gave full Scope to her Grief, and shed a Torrent of Tears, which forced a Passage from her Eyes in spite of the Emperor's Presence. That Prince seemed moved therewith, and took his Leave, not to lay any Restraint on her, telling her he would reflect maturely upon *Abaza*'s Letter, and let her know the Result.

As for *Kiosem*, her Reflections were soon made; and resolving no more to stoop to Intrigues, she determin'd to reduce *Abaza* by Force of Arms. Wherefore, as his Letter attack'd the *Divan*, not doubting but they would be exasperated at it, she told them the Contents in

in a full Council ; upon which it was concluded to leave no Stone unturn'd to destroy this pretended Rebel. Accordingly the *Valide* gave Orders for the assembling an Army beyond the *Bosphorus*, consisting of sixty thousand Men, the Command of which was confer'd upon *Sinan Bazzaz*, an Officer of great Reputation.

Anurath did not in his Heart approve of the Violence used against *Abaza* ; but he would not yet speak as Master, the Time for that not being too soon come ; wherefore as it drew nigh, he contented himself with dissembling, and making his own Advantage of all he saw and heard. *Sinan* having receiv'd Orders to march against the Rebels, *Abaza*, who was inform'd of it, prepared himself to give him a warm Reception : To this End he advanced to meet his Enemies, in order to gain a Camp whose Situation seem'd favourable to him, and there he intrench'd himself advantageously.

The Imperial Army being arrived on the Side of a large Brook, whose Banks were pretty steep, *Sinan* would make his Troops cross it in View of his Enemy, imagining he would not stir out of his Post : But the brave *Abaza* no sooner saw them begin to pass the Brook, but he made his Army advance out of their Camp, and march'd directly to his Enemy : But half the Imperial Army were yet pass'd when he gave the Onset ; they stood their Ground bravely at his first Attacks, but *Abaza* renew'd them so often, and with so much Vigour, that he made them give Way ; and having broke them, they were all driven head-long into the Brook ; *Sinan* himself was kill'd, after which, the rest of the Imperial

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Troops fled. *Abaza*, however, caused his Men to pursue the Run-aways with such Success, that they brought back twelve thousand Prisoners to his Camp ; and all who were Janizaries and Spahis, had either their Throats cut, or were impaled, as being accessory to *Osman's* Death.

This Victory afflicted the *Valide* highly, but the Inhabitants of Constantinople rejoiced at it, as much as they would have done at a Defeat of the *Christians* or *Persians*. *Abaza* immediately sent the *Mufti* an Account of the Particulars of this great Action, to which he subjoined a List of all who had a Hand in the Dethroning, and Death of, *Osman*; desiring him to warn *Amurath* to be cautious of all therein named, being the greatest Enemies of the *Ottoman* Blood and Family.

The *Mufti* instantly went and delivered to *Amurath* the List and Account : That Prince read both of them with abundance of Attention; after which, he enjoin'd the High Priest an inviolable Secrecy, being resolv'd, as he said, to examine carefully, whether all whom *Abaza* named were really criminal, with Design to punish them without any one's being able to oppose his Justice. The *Mufti* too ardently desired the Death of *Osman* to be revenged, not to be silent as to any Thing that might advance it : Wherefore he assured the Sultan of his Secrecy, who, without communicating any Thing of his Design to the *Valide*, nor even to his dearest Confidants, dissembled so well, and informed himself of the Truth with so much Address, that he found *Abaza* had not advanced any Thing which was not very certain ; he even discovered more than that General had dared to tell him ;
for

for those to whom he had entrusted the making the Enquiry, being press'd by his Orders not to conceal the least Thing from him, gave him to understand that his Mother herself had fomented the Sedition, and had contributed as much, or more than any one, to *Osman's* Misfortunes. *Amurath*, who every Day saw more and more into her, did not in the least question it; but respecting the Laws of Nature, he kept within his own Breast the Horror he conceived at her Conduct, and resolved only to punish those who had been her Agents in this late Catastrophe.

In effect, every Day, on different Pretences, he found the Means to put some of them to Death: There even happen'd something very singular, which gave him an Opportunity of destroying, without much Danger, the most resolute of *Osman's* Enemies, whom *Abaza* had placed at the head of his List. This was *Casref Bassa, Spahiler Agasy, or General of the Spabis*. This Officer, who had favoured *Kiosem* in the Insurrection of the Soldiers against *Osman*, and in whom that *Sultaness* had reposed great Confidence, was then the only one in the *Divan* who continually opposed all her Designs, and would not shew a blind Submission to her Authority. This Princess, whose Power was arrived at the highest Pitch, by her Address in giving the Government of Provinces, and the principal Employments at Court to her Creatures, having honour'd with the Seals of the Empire *Mahomet D'Agul Bassa*, one of her Sons-in-Law: She was extremely exasperated that *Casref* should dare cross him at every instant, in the midst of so many great Men, who paid a blind Obedience to the least of his Orders.

Her Anger on this Occasion, having got the better of her usual Prudence, without considering that the Person she design'd to ruin could discover horrible Things of her in Return, she complained of him to the *Sultan*: *Amurath*, overjoy'd that his Mother, of herself, gave him the Means to rid himself of him, seem'd to approve of her Resentment, and press'd her to be reveng'd of him: The *Valide* having got his Consent, did not in the least scruple satisfying herself, but sent Word to the General of the *Spahis*, that for a secret Affair, of the greatest Importance to the State, he must come immediately to the *Seraglio*, to receive the Emperor's Orders. *Casref*, who suspected nothing, instantly obey'd; but he was no sooner in the *Sultan's* Apartment, then he was seized; and *Amurath* appearing, reproach'd him with the Murder of his Brother, and the barbarous Indignities he had, together with the *Janizaries*, inflicted on that Prince; after which he condemned him to be beheaded.

Casref, who had not in the least expected such a Sentence, had the Impudence to ask the *Sultan*, if that was his Reward for placing him upon the Throne? And as he was about to justify himself at the *Valide's* Expence, *Amurath* fearing to hear too much, made a Sign to them to take him away, and execute his Orders. Accordingly he was immediately carried into the Gardens, where they placed him upon a Stool on the side of a Fountain, and struck off his Head into the Fountain. The *Sultaneſſe Kioſem* commanded a *Capigy* to take out the Head, and throw it before the Door of the *Divan*, to make the *Viziers* shew more Respect and Deference to her Orders.

This

This *Sultaneſſ*, blinded by Malice, imagin'd ſhe had done a mighty Matter herein; but, in Effect, ſhe had loſt in this General the Subject who was the moſt devoted to her Service. He was one of the beſt-made Men in the Empire, and full of Wit and Courage; *Kiefem* had always made Uſe of him in all her Intrigues; he was the very Soul of her Councils; ſhe had never undertaken any Thing without consulting him; he had received from her immense Sums which he had been entrufed with diſtributing amongſt the Rebels, inſomuch, that both the *Divan* and the City were ſurpriz'd to the laſt Degree, that ſhe had cauſed the Death of a Man whom ſhe had alwayſ ſeem'd to diſtinguiſh from all others; and thoſe of the greateſt Penetration ſaid, he was more a Victim of Jealousy, than of the State.

But it was not known that *Amurath*, who was informed of all that I have mentioned, being at a Loſs how to rid himſelf of this Head of the Rebels, by Reaſon of his Mother's great Affection for him, had immediately taken hold of the Instant of her Paſſion to compass his Ends; and had made uſe of that Princeſſe's Reſentment to ſatisfy his own; ſince if *Cafref* had not been guilty otherwife, *Amurath* would never have enter'd ſo far into his Mother's Sentiments. But thus Providence makes Uſe of the leaſt Faults to puniſh the greateſt; ſo true it is, that Wit, Courage, and other fine Qualities, are of no Service, when fully'd by Iniquity; and that it is better not to excel ſo much externally, but to obſerve exa ctly the Duty of a prudent and fa i thful Subject, and to limit one's Ambition to Living and Dying in Ma intainance of the Rights of a lawfu l Power.

In the mean while the *Spabis*, who had a great Love for this General, ran to Arms to revenge his Death: The *Janizaries* join'd them in hopes of plundering the Palaces of the chief Ministers. They all drew up in the *Hippodrome*, from whence they sent their Petition, wherein they demanded the Heads of the *Sultana Valide*, and the *Grand Vizier*. *Amurath* refused them boldly; but the Rebels sent for Answer, that if he did not satisfy them that Instant, they were resolved to dethrone him, and put his Brother *Bajazet* in his Place. The *Sultan*, enrag'd at this Insolence, would have answered them again haughtily, but the *Valide* more fearful, chose rather to deliver up her Son-in-Law than to run a greater Risque: Thus the poor Wretch was the Victim of the Mutineers, who massacred him upon the Spot, and this *Sultana*, who had amongst them many of her Creatures, caused a Sum of Money to be distributed amongst them, which obliged them not to mention her any more.

However the Rebels, embolden'd by this Easiness in granting what they ask'd, had the Audaciousness again to demand the Heads of the *Mufti*, the *Aga* of the *Janizaries*, and the *High-Treasurer*. This Insolence, which recall'd to *Amurath's* Mind *Osmans* unhappy Fate, made him shudder with Rage; wherefore he sent them Word that the *Mufti* was in the great Mosque, and that if they durst lay their sacrilegious Hands upon the Sanctuary, and upon their High-Priest, they might go thither and find him, and for the two others, they had made their Escape.

The Rebels, on pretence of searching for them, plundered several Palaces, where not finding them,

them, they return'd to the *Seraglio*, and demand ed to see the new *Grand-Vizier Ragib*; (*Amurath's* Brother-in-Law, to whom that Prince had been forced to give that high Dignity, although he hated him, well knowing he was of the Rebels Party) on seeing him, they made a thousand Ac clamations, and gave *Achmet* the Hearing very peaceably: Then they ask'd to see *Sultan Bajazet*, and they were obliged to bring him out into a Balcony by *Amurath*, who had the Mortification to see them clap their Hands in Testimony of their Joy, and to hear them say that the *Mufty's* Life should be answerable to them for the Lives of *Bajazet*, and the *Grand Vizier*. So many repeated Insolences inflam'd young *Amurath's* Courage to the highest Degree, in so much that losing all Patience, he call'd for his Arms, and sally'd out upon the Rebels at the Head of his Guards; but when he proposed it to them, he found them cold and motionless; al ledging as their Reason, that they scrupled shedding the Blood of their Companions. This An swer plung'd *Amurath* into the most cruel Despair, wherefore he retired to his Apartment, vowing within himself to be most severely reveng'd on the Mutineers, for the daily Affronts offer'd to the Majesty of their Sovereigns.

In the mean while the *Grand Vizier*, who was actually in their Interests, fearing the superiour Merit of the *Aga* of the *Janizaries*, and the *High Treasurer*, whom *Amurath* greatly esteem'd, made so strict Search after them, that he found the Place where they had taken Refuge, had them seized, and by his own Authority alone, delivered them to the Rebels, who, after a thou sand Indignities, hang'd them both on a Tree.

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This heroick Exploit having satiated their Fury, they grew cool, and returned to their Duty.

But *Amurath*, grievously afflicted at the cruel Death of these two great Men, examined so carefully who could be the Author of it, that he discovered all the *Vizier's* Treachery; and from that Instant proposed to himself to be severally revenged on him. To this end he dissembled his Grief and Anger till a favourable Opportunity should offer to discover both: The *Sultaneſs Kioſem*, who was herself a perfect Mistress of Disimulation, saw partly into her Son's Design, and gave the *Grand Vizier* warning to be upon his guard. Upon this Advice, he labour'd to form to himself in the Affections of the Soldiers, a strong Rampart against his Master. The *Sultan*, inform'd of all these clandestine Practices, dissembled more than ever, treating him familiarly, and always behaving to him with so much Frankness, as if he had nothing upon his Spirits. He had already acted in this manner a considerable Time, without discovering in the least that he remembred the Death of his two Favourites; and the *Vizier*, flatter'd by the Marks of Distinction he daily receiv'd from him, laying aside all his Suspicions, return'd to his former Tranquility.

But one Day, when *Amurath* gave a great Entertainment in the *Seraglio* to his whole Court, whilst the Guests were pleasing themselves in seeing some Fireworks play'd off that were prepared before the Palace, the *Sultan* being in a Balcony with the *Grand Vizier*, whisper'd him in the Ear to go into the next Room: The *Vizier* was alarm'd thereat; and would have reply'd; but *Amurath* repeating his Order with an Air that would

would make one tremble ; and there being no way to avoid it, he obey'd and went into the Room, where he found the *Capy-Aga* with six Mutes, who gave him an Order written by the *Grand Vizier* himself, whereby he commanded him to bring him the Head of his *Foster Father*, which is the Name given by the *Sultans* to the *Grand Vizier*. *Ragib* took the Order with Respect, and whilst he was employ'd in reading it, the *Capy-Aga* made a Sign to the Mutes, who fell upon him, and strangled him that Moment.

Thus did *Amurath* begin to revenge both *Osman's* and his own Injuries, by sacrificing to so just a Resentment the Chiefs of the Rebels ; The *Valide* was stung to the Quick with the Death of her Son-in-Law, and yet more with the *Sultan's* having made such a Secret to her of it, rightly judging that he would soon deprive her of all her Authority. Accordingly, some few Days after this Action, he told his Mother, it was now high Time for him to take the Government upon himself, and that he did not intend to be any longer under Guardianship. The *Sultaness* had nothing to answer to such a sharp Speech, wherefore all her Remedy was to retire to her Apartment, and give a free vent to her Tears ; which she did, ready to burst with Rage, Sorrow, and Despair.

The *Sultan*, who visited *Aphendina* almost every Day, gave her an exact Account of all he did, lodging in her Breast his most important Designs, and receiving her Advice and Instructions with the greatest D^refere^ce. The *Valide*, who was no Stranger to his frequent Visits, did not in the least doubt but *Amurath* was prompted in all his Actions

Actions, by the *Mufsy* and the Empress ; but not having it in her Power to be revenged on them, she dissembled in her Turn, and continued still to live in the same Manner with both of them.

As soon as *Amurath* had taken the Government upon himself, he broke his Guards, of whose Disaffection he had full Proof, and substituted in their Room a Body of chosen Men, of approved Valour and unviolable Fidelity ; and not doubting but the *Grand Vizier's* Death had again exasperated the Soldiers, by whom he was adored, he resolved to intimidate them by bold and resolute Actions. To this End he rode out one Day at the Head of his new Guards, and took several Turns about *Constantinople* with the general Acclamations of the Inhabitants ; this done, he went to the *Janizaries* Camp, which he rode round with a terrible Air, looking from Time to Time upon those Rebels, with an Eye full of Scorn and Fury.

His daring Courage made them tremble ; they were alarmed at it, and began to fear his Re-sentment. Next Morning after this Cavalcade, he seized on the most insolent of the Leaders of the *Spakis*, and had them publickly put to Death by different Torments. Then it was that *Abaza*, inform'd of all *Amurath's* Proceedings, and being willing to prove to him the Generosity of his Conduct, made his Army advance within three Days March of *Constantinople*, and caused Notice to be given him by the *Mufsy*, that he only approach'd so near the Imperial City to fly to his Assistance, in case the Rebels should have the Insolence to take up Arms against him, and that he conjured him to go on in revenging his Brother's

Brother's cruel Death, since thereby he only executed the Orders of Heaven, and would render his Glory immortal.

Amurath was very sensibly affected with this Action of *Abaza's*; being fully convinced of the Sincerity of his Pretensions, by the Order and Discipline that reign'd in his Army; not committing any Act of Hostility, nor in the least incommoding the Country People, with whom his Soldiers lived in good Intelligence, which proved that he was only there to wait his Commands: *Amurath* thank'd him for his Offer, and assured him that in a little while he should have the Satisfaction he desired. In short, the *Sultan* taking Advantage of the Consternation *Abaza's* approach had spread among the Soldiers, no longer spared them, his Guards being fully employ'd in seizing on the Rebels, whom they massacred without any Form of Justice, and threw their dead Bodies into the Sea.

These daily Executions were push'd so far, that the Mouth of the *Black Sea* was stopp'd several times by the vast Quantities of dead Carcasses. The very Inhabitants of *Constantinople* seconded the Justice of *Amurath*; for when any *Janizaries* or *Spahis* fell into their Hands, they butcher'd them without Mercy, as Accessaries to *Osman's* Death, the Memory of that Prince being still so dear to them, that they thought they could not shed too much Blood to revenge it.

Most of the Rebels, to whom the *Sultanees* *Kiosem* had given Employments in the different Provinces of this vast Empire, and who had retired thither, hoping there to enjoy peaceably
the

the Fruits of their Theft and Rapine, imagining themselves safe from *Amurath's* Resentment by their Distance from the Imperial City, hugg'd themselves every Day for their having left it ; but the *Sultan's* Justice and Revenge reach'd them even in the most remote Part of their Retirements, and he gave his Orders to Persons so faithful that they were all sacrificed ; insomuch, that from the *East* to the *West* of his whole Empire, not one escaped his Retentment ; and when he received the News of their Death, he immediately communicated it to the Empress, as a Tribute he owed to her Sorrows.

That great Princess, who from the Time of *Osman's* Decease, had been in a declining State of Health, was now almost dying, by Reason of the Alarm given her, in the last Seditio[n], for the *Mufty* her Father's Life ; and although the *Sultan* had sworn to her to defend it at the Peril of his own, she had not been able to get the better of her Fears, which had brought her to the Brink of Death. *Amurath* found so many Charms in her Conversation, that he very seldom left her, and his whole Study was to find her some Subject of Consolation. As he thought none would more sensibly affect her than those which related to *Osman's* Revenge, he took particular Care to inform her of them : This virtuous Princess often return'd him Thanks, with a charming Sweetness, complaining to him of the Rigour of her Destiny, in being obliged to rejoice at the Death of so many Men, who nevertheless, for all their Numbers, could not retrieve her irreparable Loss.

This

This Reflexion drew Tears from her Eyes every Moment, and when the Excess of her Grief forced her to shed them before *Amurath*, she conjured him not to be offended, with seeing her lament so bitterly the Death of a Prince, whose Life would have delay'd the Time of his Reign. The *Sultan*, whom all these Words touch'd to the Quick, answer'd them with a respectful Tenderness, protesting to her that he thought her Sorrow so just, that far from blaming it, he shar'd in her most sincere Affliction, by owing the Throne only to the Death of a Brother so great, so amiable, and so worthy to possess it.

Thus did these august Persons, mutually afflict and comfort themselves, almost every Day. In the mean while, these terrible and numerous Executions, had so much weaken'd the two Corps of the *Janizaries* and *Spahis*, that they were no longer to be known. *Amurath* took upon himself the Care of recruiting them, and suffer'd none but young Men to enter therein, who had already given good Proofs of their Valour, and of whose Fidelity he was assured. Over these he set Officers of an unquestion'd Courage, and when they were compleat, he reviewed them in Person; then to make himself both loved and feared by them, he often went to their Camp, and enquired into their Behaviour; besides which he used to see them shoot at a Mark in the *Hippodrome*, where he would reward the most expert, and sometimes shoot himself with them. 'Tis even affirmed, that one Day, he was so well pleased with their Conduct, that he distributed above six Thousand Chequins amongst them.

them. This Generosity gain'd him entirely the Hearts of these new Soldiers, and when he was secure on this Side, he bent all his Thoughts on binding *Abaza* to his Service, and obliging him, by fair Means, to lay down his Arms, and deliver up to him the Places whereof he had made himself Master. But not being willing to employ any of his Ministers in this great Affair, he again had Recourse to the Empress and the *Mufty*, whose Mediation he judged would be necessary to him in that Affair.

To this End, he made a Visit to *Aphendina*, whither he sent for the *Mufty*, and when they were all three together, *Amurath* addressing himself to the Empress: " You know, said he, most " virtuous Princess, all I have done to revenge " my Brother's Death ; you have seen after what " Manner I have gone about it ; neither has it " it been altogether without Danger, since the " Rebels threaten'd to depose me, and to set " *Bajazet* upon my Throne. Nevertheless, I " call the holy Prophet to witness, that there " are no Dangers to which I would not " have expos'd myself, to revenge *Osmān*, and " punish the Insolence of the Rebels. I believe " I have fully accomplish'd it, and though by a " fatal Decree I cannot again restore that great " Prince to Life, I have at least appeased the " Resentment of his *Manes*.

" Nothing then remains now but to overcome " *Abaza*, not by Force, but by the Ways of " Friendship : I have follow'd his Advice, I " have sacrificed all he has named, in short, he " ought to be satisfied. I know he has no De- " sign to rebel against my Authority, and that " he

" he took up Arms only for a just and lawful
" Cause ; but that Causē being now no more,
" he ought to lay down his Arms, and induce
" those People and Places, whereof he and his
" have made themselves Masters, to return to
" their Duty. "Tis to You, Father, and to your
" good Offices, wise *Aphendina*, that I will be
" indebted for this great Man, who will be then
" so much the dearer to me, as it will be you
" alone who have bound him to my Service."

Here the *Sultan* ceas'd speaking, and the mournful *Aphendina* finding that her Father kept Silence, to give her Leave to answer first, " My " Lord, said she to the *Sultan*, if the cruel " Loss I have suffer'd could have been retrieved, " your Highness's Care, Tenderness, and good " Offices, would have effected it; and in the " Horror of my Destiny, I can't forbear ac- " knowledging, that it has been an infinite and " pleasing Consolation to me, to find in the Per- " son of my Emperor at once a tender and gene- " rous Brother, and the Revenger of my Hus- " band. My Gratitude therefore leaves me no " Room to hesitate about what I ought to do, " and I doubt not but the *Mufly*, my Father, " will approve of my Resolution, to write ear- " nestly to *Abaza*, to give him an Account of " your Goodness, and to bring him to the Foot " of your Throne."

The *Mufly* express'd himself to the same Purpose, and *Amurath* overjoy'd, to find them disposed to undertake this Negociation, left the Conditions absolutely to them, without any manner of Restriction, promising to ratify, without Reserve, whatever they should agree to.

Then

Whereupon it was concluded that the Empress should only write to confirm what the *Mufly* inserted in his Letter, it being more decent that the Proposals should be made by the High-Priest, than by *Aphendina*, her Rank not permitting her to negotiate in Person, with a Subject of *Amurath's*. They set about it that very Day, and when all was ready, the *Mufly* sent away one of his Retinue, named *Uffain*, whose Address and Fidelity he had often experienced, with Orders to deliver the Dispatches to none but *Abaza* himself, and in the most private Manner.

He set out from *Constantinople*, disguis'd like a *Persian Merchant*, with a large Quantity of the finest Jewels in the East, and under that Quality he introduced himself to *Abaza's* Camp. He went first to the Pavillions of the head Officers, to whom he shew'd his Gems, which they lik'd exceedingly, and bought several, some of them going to their General with their new Purchases, did not fail to extol the Beauty of the Merchant's glittering Treasure, upon which *Abaza* immediately sent for him, and was not long before he cheapen'd some of the most Valuable. But as among the rest there was a Ruby, which seem'd to him particularly fine, he went to a Window to examine it the more attentively, and in a better Light. *Uffain* follow'd him thither, and taking Advantage of the Opportunity, which seperated them from the Crowd with which he was surrounded : My Lord, said he, in a low Voice, I have Orders to put into your Hands, in private, a Jewel of a far greater Value than that you are looking on. *Abaza* immediately apprehended part of the Mystery, and gave the pretended Merchant a Look, which shew'd he had heard

heard him. Then the General going again to his head Officers, said aloud to *Ussain*, that he took the Ruby at the Price he demanded, and would pay him in a few Minutes. Some Time after, having order'd him to follow him, they went together into his Cabinet. *Ussain* immediately deliver'd him the Letters of the Empress and *Mufly*, which he receiv'd upon his Knees ; and after putting them upon his Forehead and his Heart, open'd and read them. *Aphendina's* Letter contain'd but these few Words.

T H E E M P R E S S,

To General *ABAZA*.

B R A V E, and generous *ABAZA*, 'Tis in the Name, and for the Memory, of my august Spouse, that I press you again to submit without Hesitation to the sincere Goodness of Sultan Amurath, whereof you will find undeniable Proofs in the Letter of the Mufty, my Father : Give entire Belief to what he writes to you, and this last Proof of your Zeal to the Empress,

APHENDINA.

He read afterwards that of the High-Priest, wherein he inform'd him, " That *Amurath*, of his own Accord, and without having taken Counsel of any of his Ministers, being only guided by the real Esteem he had conceived for him, was desirous of binding him for ever to his Service ; and that to shew him the Sincerity of his Intentions, he had left the Empress Mistress of the Conditions, offering him personally the Government of *Bosnia*, with all the Honours that so brave a Warriour could deserve :

" deserve : He concluded with assuring him of
" Amurath's Sincerity, and advising him, as a
" Friend, not to waver about it, having nothing
" to fear, and every Thing to hope."

Abaza, persuaded by such urgent Sollicitations, answer'd it upon the Spot, sending Word to the Empress and the *Mufti*, " That it did not be-
" come a Slave to article with his Master ; that
" as it was not Ambition made him take up
" Arms, so it was not that which induced him to
" to lay them down ; that he would never re-
" fuse the glorious Marks of his Emperor's
" Goodness, but that he should always think his
" Duty his Reward ; that he only conjured his
" Highness, that in the general Pardon he was
" willing to vouchsafe him, neither himself nor
" any of his Followers might be termed Rebels
" nor Traitors, since not one of them had ever
" been so ; that his Army was composed of the
" best Troops in the Empire, brave, obedient,
" and faithful ; that they had been disciplin'd
" by his own Hand ; and that the two principal
" Corps of his Highness's Troops having been
" extremely weaken'd by the Punishment of *Osf-*
" man's Murtherers, it would be good Policy,
" and consistent with his Greatness to keep that
" Army on Foot, and leave all the Officers in
" the Posts he had given them, on Account
" of the Knowledge he had of their Courage
" and Valour ; assuring him that with these
" Troops he would subdue all his Enemies, and
" that his Highness would never have Reason to
" repent him of his Clemency."

The faithful *Ufain* set out instantly with these Dispatches, and had no sooner deliver'd them to the

the *Mufly*, than he went with them to the Empress, who immediately sent to desire the *Sultan* would honour her with his Company, about an Affair of the utmost Importance. *Amurath*, who had counted the Days since *Ussain's* Departure, with the Impatience of a Man, who ardently desires Success in his Undertaking, not doubting but he had heard from *Abaza*, hasten'd to her without delay; and this Princess having deliver'd him *Abaza's* Answers, he was overjoy'd to find that General's Sentiments so agreeable to his Intentions. Wherefore that very Day he caus'd the Patent to be drawn up, containing a general Amnesty for all *Abaza's* Army, with extraordinary Commendations both of him and his Troops; declaring that he retain'd them still in his Service, and not only promising to pay them their Arrears, but to allow two Aspers a Day more than before, and when it had pass'd all the necessary Forms, *Ussain* was again order'd to carry it to *Abaza*.

During the Interval, the compleating this Negotiation required, *Abaza* having a Mind to propose to his Army the Agreement he was about making, caused his principal Officers, in whom he repos'd great Confidence, and who were entirely devoted to him, to give out in the Camp: "That *Sultan Amurath* was a Prince full of Courage and Valour; that ever since he had taken the Government into his own Hands, he had spar'd no Pains to revenge the great *Osman's* Death; that he had destroy'd all his Murtherers; and that at the Porte Dignities were no longer granted to the Sollicitations of the Ladies of the Seraglio, or the Courtiers, neither were there any sold to the highest Bidder,

" der, as in Times past ; that his Highness only
" gave them to those who really deserv'd them ;
" that this Prince apply'd himself carefully to
" discipline his Troops, in order to enable him
" to revenge the Affronts his Enemies had put
" upon the *Porte*, during the Rebellions that
" had lately happen'd ; and that he alone was
" capable of re-establishing the Glory of the
" Empire."

This Discourse, which seem'd flung out by Chance, had all the Effect he could have hoped, insomuch that nothing was to be heard throughout the Camp but *Amurath's* Praises. His Army were in this favourable Disposition, when *Ussain* arriv'd with the Patent. *Abaza* immediately communicated it to his Council, where all his General Officers approved of his Courage, and his Prudence, and it was there resolved that it should be made publick next Day, to take Advantage of the present Disposition of the Soldiery, in Favour of the *Sultan*. Accordingly the next Day, *Abaza* drew up his Army in Battle Array ; after which the Heralds publish'd the Patent with all possible Magnificence : And as it abounded with Marks of *Amurath's* Goodness and Esteem for all the Army, it fill'd every Heart with Joy, which the Soldiers testified by a thousand Acclamations.

This done, *Abaza* made an Encomium on the *Sultan*, exhorting the Officers and Soldiers to be always faithful and obedient to him, and promising them in his Name such Rewards, as should make them amends for all their Sufferings, in revenging the Murder of the great *Osman*. Every

Every one approved of his Words, and they unanimously submitted.

Some few Days after, the Emperor's Commissioners being arrived at the Camp, *Abaza* without Hesitation deliver'd up all his Authority into their Hands. The Army was immediately paid off what was their due, and sent away to different Parts, upon the Frontiers of *Persia*; after which *Abaza* resign'd up all the Places whereof he was posseſ'd, into the Hands of the Commissioners. During these Transactions, *Amurath* caused the Amnesty of *Abaza* and his Troops to be publish'd likewise at *Constantinople*; hereupon the Politicians of that great City reason'd mightily upon the Event. The Negociation had been carry'd on with such Secrecy, that no Body had the least Knowledge of it 'till that Moment; and although the *Sultana Valide* saw this important Affair concluded with Pleasure, her Grief for her Son's having made such a Mystery of it to her, got the better at that Time of the Welfare of the State, and forc'd from her abundance of Tears.

Amurath, who knew her Ambition, and who had no Mind she should think, he suspected her of having contributed to the Revolts of the Soldiers against *Osman*, that he might not make her quite disconsolate, gave her several Affairs in Charge, of Consequence great enough to have satisfied a Woman less ambitious: But her Thirst after Power was unbounded, and rightly judging that the *Sultan* acted by the Counsels of the Empress and the *Mufly*, she conceived an implacable Hatred against them, which nevertheless was of no Effect, since her Authority

rity could not extend any farther than *Amurath* was pleased to permit it.

Whilst this Prince waited the coming of *Abaza*, he went to pass a few Days at *Daut*, a Pleasure-House before-mention'd, about a League from *Constantinople*, and full of a thousand Charms. The first Night he lay there, whilst he was buried in a profound Sleep, he was awaken'd by several prodigious Thunder-Claps, and dreadful Lightnings. The Claps became at last so frequent, that the young Monarch began to be alarm'd at them; but he was terrify'd to the last Degree, when he perceived that the Lightning had fallen upon his Chamber, and he saw it all on a Flame. He rose on a sudden to seek some Place of Refuge, and was no sooner out of Bed, than the Flames seiz'd hold on it. *Amurath* more frighten'd than ever, ran to his Cabinet, with Design to retire thither. This violent and subtil Fire follow'd him there also, and passing under his Arm, burnt his Shirt; and whether it was the Pain he felt, or the Effect of his extreme Terror, he fell on the Floor in a Swoon. His Pages being by this Time come to his Assistance, having been alarmed by the Noise he made, and his Cries before he fainted away, found him in this melancholy Condition. 'Twas with great Difficulty they brought him to himself, and when they had effected it, his first Care was to humble himself before the Lord of Lords, who when he pleases can reduce the most powerful Empires to Ashes, and make the greatest of Monarchs to tremble.

The *Friday* following, which is a Day consecrated to Devotion among the *Mahometans*, as
Sunday

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Sunday is among the *Christians*, Amurath return'd to *Constantinople*, and dismounted before St. *Sophia*, which the *Turks* call the great *Mosque*, where he appear'd with a Modesty and Devotion that edify'd all Beholders. He return'd God solemn Thanks for having preserved him from such Danger; after which he made a *Corban*, or Offering of three hundred Sheep, which he order'd to be distributed among the Poor, together with fifteen thousand Chequins. Next Day, going to visit the Empress, he related to her his Adventure; *Aphendina*, and the *Mufly*, who let slip no Opportunity that might be advantageous to the Revengers of *Osman*, and to *Amurath's* Greatness, laid hold on this to remonstrate to him, that to render himself worthy of the Sovereign Authority, he must let Justice and Equity be the Guide of all his Actions, that the Danger he had escaped, was a Warning to him from Heaven, to behave himself in such a Manner, that no Body should have any Thing to reproach him with; since he might see that God, who ruleth the Thunder, can destroy all Things in a Moment; that he was not more firmly seated upon the Throne, than the unhappy *Osman* had been before him; and that he could not render himself agreeable to God, but in protecting openly that Prince's Friends, and in punishing his Enemies. The *Sultan* received this Lesson with his usual Goodness, assuring the Empress, there was nothing he esteem'd more than the Memory of his Brother, and that he would give manifest Proofs of it by his extraordinary Reception of *Abaza*.

In short, three Days after, *Aphendina* having inform'd him, that this General was arriv'd at

I *Sectary*,

Scutary, and that his Impatience to see that great Man would soon be satisfied, he immediately order'd the *Captain Baffa* to send away four Galleys to bring him over the *Bosporus*. This Honour, which had never before been shewn to any but *Grand Viziers*, surprized all the Council, who would have represented to the *Sultan*, that such singular Marks of Distinction might be of ill Consequence ; but he stopt all their Mouths, by telling them that his Favours were not ty'd to Titles or Dignities, but only to true Merit, upon which he was the Master to bestow them as he pleased. The Galleys set out, *Abaza* embark'd on Board, and pass'd the *Bosporus*. The Shore was cover'd with an infinite Number of People, who cry'd without ceasing, *This is the great ABAZA, the Terror of the Wicked, the Revenger of the great OSMAN, and the Defender of the Sovereign Authority ! May he be for ever Happy !*

Abaza receiv'd all these Praises and Blessings without Pride, and was no sooner arrived, but he went directly to the *Mufly's Palace*. They could not behold each other without mingling some Tears with their Joy ; the Memory of *Osman*, his Virtues, and his Misfortunes, were a long Time the Subject of their Entertainment. After this *Abaza* desired of the *Mufly* a sincere Character of *Amurath* ; and this High-Priest having no Reserves to so illustrious a Friend, gave him a Description of the *Sultan*, such as he then was, and such as discerning Men judged he would one Day be, viz. endued with both the Virtues and the Vices of the *Ottomans* : Great, politick, and cruel, but just; haughty and terrible to the Grandees, humane and tender to his Subjects, sincere in his Friendship, but dissembling in his Hatred ;

Hatred ; voluptuous to Excess ; a Lover of War, and one that seem'd not in the least to degenerate from the Courage and Valour of his Ancestors.

This lively Picture made the great *Abaza* sigh ; the *Musty* did not fail taking Notice of it, and guessing his Thoughts : I see plainly, said he, that you sigh at not finding a second *Osman* in the *Sultan* ; but, brave *Abaza*, all great Men don't resemble each other ; *Osman* seem'd not to have been born to command *Mussulmen* ; his uncommon Accomplishments distinguish'd him too much from them : Reason and Wisdom served him as a Law ; and he disdain'd to comply even with the Law itself when it was not founded upon those two Virtues : This was acting and thinking with too much Delicacy for groveling Souls, who neither love nor esteem such Things as are above their shallow Capacities. *Sultan Osman's* extraordinary Merit was the sole Cause of all his Misfortunes ; *Amurath*, will not be Master of so many shining Qualities, and for that very Reason he will be the more fortunate : His Defects rendering him more like his People, they will extol the more what fine Qualities he possesseſſes, and his Subjects, in Favour of those Vices he has in common with them, will excuse him those Virtues that are above their Understanding. What would have render'd *Osman* the greatest Monarch of the Universe in any other Empire, was the Occasion of his Destruction in this ; and what would make *Amurath* hated on another Throne, will maintain him upon his own.

This Reasoning, as judicious as it was, could not put a Stop to *Abaza's* Tears ; but as they were to no Purpose, and it was absolutely impos-

sible to recall *Osman* to Life, he made them give way to his Duty, and desired the *Mufti* to procure him an Audience of the *Grand Seignior* the next Morning, but the *Mufti* was better than his Desire, and obtain'd him one that very Day. *Amurath* omitted nothing that might render it magnificent, to which End he was surrounded with all the great Officers who were then at the *Porte*, and all the Heads of the *Divan*. As for *Abaza*, he appear'd at the Entrance of the *Seraglio*, with extraordinary Pomp ; being attended by all his General Officers, at the Head of fifteen Hundred Men richly habited, and each mounted upon a beautiful *Arabian*, with fine Accoutrements. The *Sultan* had placed himself at a Balcony to see them pass by, and could not help joining with all his Court, in Admiratio*n* of *Abaza*'s good Mien, and warlike Air, with the noble Confidence with which he appear'd, in a Place to be dreaded even by the greatest Favourites. But what made him look'd upon by every one as a most extraordinary Man, was, his Courage, Valour, and Prudence, in supporting himself with a Handful of Men, against the whole Forces of such a powerful Empire, without its being possible, either for Envy, Hatred, Cunning, or all the Stratagems of the most refin'd Policy to subdue him.

When he was come to the Entrance into the *Grand Signior's Appartments*, the *Mufti* took him by the Hand, and led him to the Foot of the Throne. *Amurath*, being willing, in the Presence of his whole Court, to favour him with the greatest of all Distinctions, gave him his Hand to kiss, instead of the Hem of his Vest. *Abaza*, who had prostrated himself, and was

as'd

rais'd up by the *Sultan*, made then his Speech to this Effect: " That he would not assure his " Highness of his Fidelity, because he had never " been wanting therein ; that his Duty alone had " obliged him to sacrifice to his Brother *Osman's* " Shade, those impious Villains who had so cruel- " ly betray'd and massacred him, in order to " teach the *Mussulmen* what Respect and Obe- " dience they owed to the sacred and inviolable " Blood of the *Ottoman Family*."

The *Grand Signior* seem'd moved with this well-turn'd Compliment, and answer'd him obligingly ; that it was only the Confidence he reposed in him, which induced him to be desirous of binding him to his Service ; then after a thousand gracious Caresses, he presented him with three rich Caftans, to convince him that he was perfectly in his Favour, and confer'd on him the Government of *Bosria*. But whilst *Abaza* was receiving all these Honours, with the Respect and Submission due to his Emperor, his Eyes were struck with an Object that made him change Colour. He saw amongst the *Viziers* of the Bench, a Man he had set down in the black List, deliver'd at his Desire to the *Sultan* ; and he was infinitely surpriz'd to find him not only alive, but invested with a Dignity, of which his Crimes, which had render'd him unworthy of Life, must certainly have render'd him unworthy also.

This Man, whose Name was *Caluf*, was a *Hegias*, or Doctor of the Law, and had been not only one of the first to betray *Osman*, but one of the most obstinately bent on having him put to Death. *Amurath*, whose Eyes were fixed upon

Abaza, observing his Change of Countenance and Astonishment, presently suspected the Cause ; but as that was not a proper Place to tell him the Reason of a Thing so extraordinary, he took no manner of Notice of it to him. In the mean while, when Audience was over, all the *Viziers* coming up to *Abaza*, to congratulate him, with many Protestations of Friendship, *Caluf* seem'd one of the most Zealous to compliment him; but *Abaza*, far from giving him the Hearing, look'd upon him with Horror, spit upon the Ground, stamp'd with his Foot, and turn'd his Back upon him, which are so many Marks of the highest Detestation : And that very Night he complain'd to the *Mufti*, of the little Regard he imagin'd *Amurath* had to his Accusation of this Traytor, since instead of punishing him, he had preferr'd him to the Dignity of *Vizier* of the Bench.

The *Mufti* answer'd, that he had been as much surpriz'd as *Abaza* at *Caluf's* Promotion, but that they ought not to condemn the *Sultan* unheard ; and that he should remember he had told him, that Prince dissembled his Hatred yet more perfectly than he express'd his Friendship ; whereupon they resolv'd to speak to him of it the next Day. *Amurath*, who was desirous of having some familiar Conversation with *Abaza*, no sooner saw them, than he led them into his Closet, and not giving the latter Time to complain, said to him, that he had observed his secret Emotions at the Sight of *Caluf*; neither was he ignorant of the Contempt and Hatred he had express'd of him : " He should already have suffer'd the Death due to his first Crime, pursued he, if I was not bound in Justice to ch-

" stise

" stise him severely for a second, which requires
" a most exemplary Punishment. Then the
" Sultan informed them, that a rich *Turkijb*
" Jeweller, being desirous of complying with
" the Mahometan Law, which enjoins all *Mussul-*
" *men* to visit their Prophet's Tomb once in
" their Lives, had intrusted, at his Departure, a
" Box of Jewels of infinite Value to Doctor
" *Caluf*, and that having demanded it at his
" Return, that Doctor had deny'd the Trust.
" The Jeweller, reduced to the utmost Despair,
" not having any Witnesses to the Fact, and be-
" ing afraid that *Caluf* would bring him into
" Trouble, did not dare to complain; but having
" had the good Luck to relate his Misfortune
" to one of his (the Sultan's) *Mesaips* or Fa-
" vorites, he had inform'd him of it, and his
" Highness had immediately order'd him to bring
" the Merchant before him; and that this Man
" having particulariz'd to him the Quantity and
" Form of the Jewels, he had promis'd strict
" Justice, as soon as he could get sufficient Proofs
" against *Caluf*.

" That in order to effect this, he had thought
" he could not do better than dissemble; that
" therefore he had sent for *Caluf*, and pretend-
" ing that the Fame of his Merit and Under-
" standing having reach'd his Ears, he was wil-
" ling to put him in a Place where he might
" display them to the best Advantage, he
" had to this End made him a *Vizier* of the
" Bench; that to this Dignity he had added
" such extraordinary Honours, that all the *Di-*
" *vans* had been surprized at it, but that it
" had all been only a politick Fetch, the better
" to deceive *Caluf*; that having received *Abaza*'s

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" much about the same Time, and finding there-
" by that this very Wretch had been one of Of-
" man's bitterest Enemies, he had taken a fresh
" Resolution to make him die under the most
" exquisite Tortures ; but that the Punishment
" of the Theft being a Thing of the utmost
" Consequence for the Security of the Properties
" of his Subjects, he had been willing to defer it,
" 'till he could get some Proof of that likewise.
" That he had not waited long in Suspence for
" it, because *Caluf* being intoxicated with his
" Greatness and the Favours he had conferr'd
" upon him, believing himself above the Reach of
" Fortune, had, within these few Days, adorn'd
" himself with several of the Gems the Jeweller
" had described to him, and especially with an
" extraordinary rich Pair of Beads, which he
" wore on the Day of *Abaza*'s Audience ; that
" these Things had been too well particularized
" for him to be mistaken therein ; and that he
" wanted no other Evidence than that of his own
" Eyes, to punish *Caluf* rigorously for all his
" Crimes at once. This, continued *Amurath*,
" is the Reason of that Traitor's Advancement ;
" if I should put him to Death, only to revenge
" my Brother, without proving his Theft, my
" People would every Day be exposed to the
" Dishonesty of such as he ; and I will give my
" Subjects, at one and the same Time, two fa-
" mous Examples in the Punishment of *Caluf*,
" that of being Loyal to their Emperors, and
" that of an inviolable Integrity in whatever
" is left intrusted with them."

This Piece of the most refined Policy, sur-
prized *Abaza* and the *Mufly* to the last Degree ;
and they infinitely extoll'd the *Sultan's* Conduct
in

in this Affair, giving him a Thousand Thanks for his Goodness in communicating it to them ; and as *Amurath* had no Mind to defer *Caluf's* Fate any longer, being sufficiently convinced of his Theft, he caused it to be proposed the very next Day to the *Divan*, under fictitious Names ; pretending, that the Governor of one of the remote Provinces, had sent to demand, what sort of Punishment ought to be inflicted upon this Man, and requiring the Opinion of every one of them in Particular.

The *Divan* immediately consulted on this Affair, after which each Man's Opinion was committed to writing : These were carried forthwith to the *Sultan*, who being impatient to see *Caluf's*, read that first. It was, That a Man convicted of such a Crime, ought to be put alive into an iron Mortar, and there to be Pounded to Death. His own Opinion served him for a Sentence, for as he came out of the *Divan*, going to make his Court to the *Sultan* as usual, adorned with the above-mention'd rich Beads ; *Amurath*, after loading him with Favours, pretending to be mightily taken with the Beauty of the Stones, and to have a Fancy for them ; *Caluf*, whom they had as yet cost nothing, made no Scruple of presenting it to him ; as soon as the *Sultan* was posseſ'd of this Part of the Theft, he had him seized, and the same Moment sent Officers to his House, with Orders to search for a Casket made in such a Manner.

They found it, without much Difficulty, fill'd with the same Jewels that had been given *Caluf* in Trust ; then he was examin'd, and seeing such manifest Proofs of his Crime, confess'd all ; upon

which *Amurath* immediately commanded the Advice he had given to be exactly follow'd in every Point. Accordingly this miserable Wretch was led away to the Place of Punishment, and pound'd alive. His Highness likewise order'd a great marble Pestle and Mortar to be placed at the Gate of the *Divan*, round which *Caluf's* Story should be engraved, to serve as an Example to Posterity.

Amurath then order'd all the Jewels to be restored to the Jeweller, and to make him Amends for the Trick *Caluf* had play'd him, gave him best Part of his Effects, which were very considerable. This terrible Execution having satisfy'd the Hatred *Abaza* had to that Traytor, he waited on *Amurath* to thank him for it ; and the *Sultan* told him he was glad he was satisfy'd, but he would give him a yet farther Satisfaction, which should be so much the more agreeable to him, as it was every Way to his Glory. It is, continued this Prince, that of seeing the Empress, whither I will conduct you myself. *Abaza* bow'd down to the Ground at these Words, and own'd to the *Sultan*, that he had impatiently long'd to throw himself at the Feet of that great Prince; but that not being ignorant of the Laws of the *Seraglio*, he had not dar'd to ask him so extraordinary a Favour.

Aphendina's uncommon Merit and Virtue, sets her above the Laws, said *Amurath*; my Brother, who perfectly knew her Value, has given me the Example to break them only for her. At these Words, having bid *Abaza* follow him, together with the *Mufly*, who was present at this Conversation, he led them to the Empress's Apartment.

partment. That beauteous and afflicted Princess could not see *Abaza* at her Feet, without shedding a Flood of Tears, and whatever Efforts she made to speak, she could never bring her Mouth to pronounce any Thing but the single Word OSMAN. *Abaza* moved to the last Degree at *Aphendina*'s unutterable Sorrow, together with the Grief he felt himself, bath'd the Hand she held out to him to kiss, with his Tears, and this affecting Sight forced some likewise from the Eyes of *Anurath*. In the mean while the Empress surmounting her deep Sighs with the utmost Difficulty : Generous *Abaza*, said she, my Tears at the Sight of you, are as much the Marks of the Acknowledgment I owe you, as the Effects of the fatal Remembrance that never leaves me. Then having asked the Sultan's Permission to give *Abaza* some Proofs of her Esteem, she order'd a little gold Casket to be brought, from whence she took a Girdle all embroider'd with Pearls and Diamonds, to an inestimable Value, which she presented with such a Grace to *Abaza*, that this great Man threw himself a second Time at her Feet, not so much to receive the Present with the more Respect, as through the Effect of the Admiration that seiz'd him on looking on that Princess, who to do him the more Honour had unveil'd her Face. Her Languor, her Melancholy, and her Tears, seem'd to have increased the Lustre of her Beauty ; and the Sultan himself, who saw her every Day, confess'd he had never seen her so worthy Admiration, as at that Time : But some Days after that Interview, the Satisfaction she then gave them was changed into the greatest Affliction.

The Sultaness *Kiosem*, whose Hatred to *Aphen-dina* was grown implacable, by Reason of the Esteem and Respect daily shewn her by the Emperor, took the execrable Resolution to make her the Victim of her Jealousy ; and as she could not succeed therein but by unwarrantable Means, that of Poison seem'd to her one of the least hazardous : Wherefore, without consulting any Thing but her Passion, she pick'd out with her own Hands a Basket of the finest and rarest Fruits, having first taken care to impregnate them with a Poison so strong, that it assured her of the Death of whoever tasted them, and sent them as a Present to the Empress by one of the *Bostangis*. *Aphendina* return'd Thanks by the Bearer, but not being disposed then to eat any herself, immediately distributed them amongst the *Odalisks* that were with her, without reserving the least Taste for herself. As the Fruits seem'd very tempting to the Eye, the unfortunate *Odalisks* began to eat them very eagerly ; but had hardly swallowed them before they were all seiz'd with dreadful Convulsions. The *Odalisk Elisana*, Favourite to the Empress, having been the first that tasted them, was also the first who felt the terrible Effects of them ; and *Aphen-dina*'s Apartment must certainly have then been a most moving Scene, to behold in one Instant so many beautiful Maidens in the Jaws of Death. The Cries and Shrieks with which every Room resounded at that Moment, made all the Women and Eunuchs of the *Seraglio* fly thither with all Speed ; and the Confusion and Alarm became so great, that it at last reach'd the Ears of the *Sultan*, who happen'd then to be

be shut up in his Closet, with the *Mufthy* and *Abaza*, about Affairs of Importance. That Prince immediately demanded the Reason of the Noise he heard, and as Stories always change in passing through different Mouths, somebody answer'd ; That the Empress was poison'd, and lay a dying.

These cruel Words made *Amurath* tremble, and he immediately flew to that Princess's Apartment, follow'd by the *Mufthy* and *Abaza*, who were yet more terrify'd than the *Sultan*. As they pass'd through the Anti-chambers, they beheld so many melancholy Objects as made them shudder with Horror ; and when they came to *Aphendina*, they found her employ'd inendeavouring to recover *Elisana*, whom she entirely loved. The Sight of her having dispelled their Fears for her Safety, *Amurath* would be inform'd of the Truth of the shocking Catastrophe, which the Empress having told him, without concealing the least Particular, he was struck with the utmost Horror, and return'd Heaven Thanks for having preserved her from so eminent a Danger : But it was decreed, that this fatal Adventure should nevertheless be the Cause of the Death of that beauteous Princess.

The Emperor having conjured her to go into another Apartment, to remove her from the Sight of *Elisana*, who was at the last Gasp, she consented ; some Minutes after, that *Odalisk* having given up the Ghost, one of *Aphendina*'s Women, who had undress'd her, having found about her a Pocket-book of uncommon Richness, carry'd it to that Princess, who immediately rememb'ring it to be the same she had presented to *Osman*, gave a great

great Shriek when she received it from the Hands of the Slave.

The *Mufsy*, who knew whence her Astonishment proceeded, thought to free her from it by telling her, that this Pocket-book had been delivered to him by an *Iman*, and that having seen upon it these Words, *To the Empress*, he had given it in charge to an Eunuch of the *Seraglio*, with Orders to put it into the Hands of *Elisana*; but that this *Odalisk* fearing to renew her Grief, had not deliver'd it to her. This Account having given *Aphendina* to understand that the Pocket-book contained something that was particularly address'd to her, she open'd it with Precipitation, and found therein these Words in *Latin*, written with *Osman's* own Hand, which she read aloud.

To the EMPRESS.

OH! My dearest Aphendina! How do thy Sorrows add to the Severity of my hard Fate! How much art thou to be lamented for thy Love and thy Fidelity! But at the same Time what Comfort do I receive from thence in the Excess of my Misfortunes! Thy Image, Oh my divine Princess! is deeply engraven in my Heart, and always present before my Eyes; and 'tis, as it were, through a pure and limpid Water that I behold thy Tears and Constancy: However, my dearest Aphendina, let us both make use of those Arms which our Enemies cannot take from us; they will enable us to triumph over their Persecutions; We were govern'd by Wisdom and Philosophy upon the *Krone*, let us still be the same in our Fall; let us employ our Learning and our Reason to raise ourselves above our

our Misfortunes ; let us leave Despair, and other Weaknesses, to base and groveling Souls, and let us respect the Decrees of Heaven.

I see my Death certain, and expect it ; but I will sell my Life dearly ; not that I still love it, (since I cannot pass and finish it with thee) but for my own and thy Glory. As for thee, my dearest Aphendina, endeavour to live to revenge my Death ; preserve for my Brother Amurath the same Affection you express'd towards him during my Life ; tell him often that I have always loved him, and that it is from him alone I hope for a memorable Revenge. I am infinitely concerned when I think the rebellious Soldiery have again set Mustapha on the Throne, I tremble for Amurath.

Oh ! My dearest Princess ! Live to save the Life of thy Husband's Brother, and to remember continually that neither the Indignities they have made me suffer, nor the Cruelties they still exercise upon me, nor even Death itself, has Power enough to tear thee from the Heart of

OSMAN.

The Empress who translated this Letter as she read it, in order to render it intelligible to the Sultan, had put so great a Constraint upon herself, to suppress the deep Sighs that interrupted her every Moment, that she fainted away as soon as she had ended it. Amurath, who saw therein convincing Proofs of his Brother's Affection, was all in Tears ; and Abaza and the Mufty gave full Scope to theirs ; but all of them sensibly alarm'd at Aphendina's Condition, forgot every Thing to fly to her Assistance, her Women striving, but in vain, to recover her.

Never-

Nevertheless, she came at last to herself, but it was with such violent fainting Fits, attended with a Fever, that they were forced to put her to Bed; wherefore the *Sultan* withdrew with *Abaza* and the *Mufti*, after having commanded as much Care to be taken of that Princess as himself, and forbid any Thing being given her on Pain of Death, without being first tasted by some other Person.

As soon as the *Sultan* was got to his Apartment, he gave himself up to the most cutting Reflections upon all that had happened that Day: *Abaza* went out of the *Seraglio* overwhelm'd with Sorrow; whilst the *Mufti*, whom *Apkendina's* Condition reduced to Despair, staid behind with *Amurath*; and a little before the Close of the Evening, their mutual Uneasiness having drawn them again to the Empress, they found her very ill; and the Physicians, who from that Moment judg'd her Distemper mortal, informed the *Sultan* of it. Never was Sorrow greater than that of this Prince; and imagining within himself that his Care and Attention might possibly save her, it was impossible to prevail on him to stir from that Princess's Apartment, wherein he staid, and had every Thing brought him, for a Week that her Sickness lasted. The *Mufti*, whose Anguish was unutterable, seeing him so overcome with Grief and Melancholy, was often forced, notwithstanding the Sorrow wherewith he was himself oppressed, to use all his Authority as High Priest, to moderate the *Sultan's* Affliction. The dying Empress, who perceived it, being very sensible she should never recover, endeavoured to comfort him by all the Arguments

ments she thought most likely to prevail on him; but the good Sense and Understanding that reigned in her Discourse, only added to the sensible Regret he was under at the Thoughts of losing her.

To conclude; the Evening before the Death of this virtuous Princess, she made him draw near her Bed, and seeing him all in Tears; "I die, my Lord, said she, loaded with your Favours; but since you honour me with your Friendship, dry up your Tears, and think, for your Consolation, that Heaven only created me to love *Osman*; that it has only let me live to see you revenge his Death, and that I am going to rejoin him never to part more. Oh! My dear *Osman*! pursued she with Transport, how many Tears hath thy Death cost me, and how much Joy does my own give me!"

These were the last Words she utter'd with any Connection; and 'till the next Morning that she expired, she could speak nothing distinctly but the Name of *Osman*, whose Letter was found upon her Heart. 'Tis easy to judge of the *Mufly's* Despair, at losing in this Princess a Daughter, both illustrious for her Virtues, and admirable for her Beauty, at whom alone he gloried: His Learning and Philosophy were not sufficient to arm him against such a Misfortune.

Amurath was inconsolable for her Loss, and retain'd all his Life a singular Esteem for her Memory; accordingly, he celebrated her Funeral Rites

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Rites with an unparellel'd Pomp and Magnificence.

Aphendina died lamented by the whole Empire, who thought that in her they had lost a second *Osman*: The *Sultaneſs Kioſem* was the only one who rejoiced at it, flattering herſelf that having no longer ſuch a Rival, her Authority would be the greater; but *Amurath*, who, by the Adventure of the Fruit, no longer doubted of the Blackneſſ of her Character, never afterwards reposed an entire Confidence in her: And Heaven, which would not ſuffer him to blemiſh himſelf by the Puniſhment due to her enormous Crimes, deferr'd her Fate 'till the Reign of *Mahomet IV.* her Grandſon, when, notwithstanding her great Age and exalted Dignity, ſhe was strangled by his Order. And it is obſerved in History, that of those who contributed to *Osman's* Muſter, there was not one who did not feel the Weight of Divine Vengeance; which proves that Providence laughs at human Projects; that what we think will be the Means to advance us to Greatneſſ, is often the Cause of our Deſtruclion; and, in ſhort, that God has ſtampt ſo ſacred a Character upon the Persons of Sovereigns, of whatever Religion they are, that their Subjects can never make any Atteſt upon their Lives, without offendiſg him in the highest Degree, and deſerving the Puniſhment which his Juſtice is ſure, ſooner or later, to iſfict upon them.

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